

# The Brooklyn Paper

Brooklyn's Real Newspaper

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**BROOKLYN HEIGHTS—DOWNTOWN EDITION**  
INCLUDING DUMBO

AWP/18 pages • Vol. 30, No. 32 • Saturday, Aug. 18, 2007 • FREE



**LEFT, RIGHT AND CENTER:** All three faces of Rudy Giuliani — the liberal former mayor, the conservative trying to appeal to right-wing GOP primary voters, and the middle-of-the-road, common-sense pol — were on display at a synagogue fundraiser this week.

## Homecoming King Rudy gets a hero's welcome in Brooklyn

**By Dana Rubinstein**  
The Brooklyn Paper

Rudy Giuliani preached to the choir during a private fundraiser for his 2008 presidential campaign at a Sephardic synagogue on Ocean Parkway in Gravesend on Monday. "I can tell you how much strength it gives me to have you — all of you friends who helped me become mayor — working with me now," said Giuliani to a crowd of about 150 supporters inside Congregation Shaare Zion, each of whom paid \$40 a pop to attend what was billed as a "Rally with Rudy."

Giuliani will need such support if he's to carry Brooklyn. Federal campaign finance records reveal that Democratic front-runner Sen. Hillary Clinton is far outpacing "America's Mayor," not only in New York State — where she's raised \$14 million to

### DECISION '08

his \$8 million — but also in Brooklyn, where she has collected \$400,000 to his \$257,000. But that did not dampen the enthusiasm of the crowd inside the synagogue's banquet hall — a crowd that was decidedly grayer than one that recently turned out for Giuliani's endorsement of Barack Obama. And the good news for the former mayor was the absence of the anti-Giuliani firefighters who have been a fixture on his campaign circuit, protesting his leadership before and after 9-11.

At the rally, the average age of Giuliani's supporters was about 50, and the fairly homogeneous crowd was

mostly male. Among them was Israel Steinberg, who said he supported Giuliani in part because of his Middle East policy. "He threw [Yasser] Arafat out of the United Nations," said Steinberg with approval, referring to the 1995 incident in which Giuliani ejected the late Palestinian leader from a Lincoln Center concert. The move was roundly criticized by the Clinton White House for its lack of diplomacy, though it tarnished Giuliani's credentials in some quarters. "Mrs. Clinton went to kiss Mrs. Arafat," continued Steinberg. "That tells you something right away, that something's not kosher here."

Inside the synagogue, between avenues T and U, Giuliani kept to his talking points, underscoring his history as mayor of New York City, and alluding to his leadership role after the

9-11 terrorist attacks. He compared himself to Ronald Reagan and credited the late president with ending the 1979 Iranian hostage crisis. "I believe [the Iranians] saw something different in Ronald Reagan's eyes than they did in [then-President] Jimmy Carter's eyes," said Giuliani. "They saw indecision in Carter's eyes. In Ronald Reagan's they saw determination and strength... You have to deal with Islamic terrorism from... strength."

And it is that persona of strength that won Giuliani the support of attendees like Judah Eckstein. "We like Rudy very much," said Eckstein, who runs a Web site called Yeshiva World. "He was the best mayor New York City every had. He reduced crime, and he made the streets safer."

## JEW TO LEAD ARAB SCH

**By Dana Rubinstein**  
The Brooklyn Paper

The city has appointed a Jewish educator to salvage its first Arabic language and culture academy following the resignation school founder, Debbie Almontaser, who came under fire after defending "Intifada NYC" T-shirts created by an organization with which she was affiliated.

On Tuesday, the city announced the appointment of Danielle Salzgier as interim principal of the Khalil Gibran International Academy, which will begin classes in just over two weeks. Salzgier speaks no Arabic and has no apparent expertise in Arabic culture.

Even commentators who defended the school were taken aback by the city's decision to appoint Salzgier to the delicate post.

"To put a principal totally un-immersed in the culture seems like spitting in their eye," former Mayor Ed Koch told the New York Times.

Salzgier, who worked on the planning of the school, though behind the scenes, was rushed into the job following the resignation of Almontaser, a fluent Arabic speaker, amid the uproar about the "Intifada NYC" shirts.

The T-shirt was made by a group called Arab Women Active in Art and Media, which shares office space with another organization of which Almontaser is a board member.

Almontaser initially defended the shirt, saying that "intifada" literally means "shaking off."

"I understand it is developing a negative connotation due to the uprising in the Palestinian-Israeli areas," she told the Post. "I don't believe the intention is to have any of that kind of [violence] in New York City. I think it's pretty much an opportunity for girls to express that they are part of New York City society — and shaking off oppression."

Insiders say the remark — in addition to other missteps (see our "Timeline of a Debacle" on page 6) — led to her demise.

Her translation, while technically accurate, "ignored the reality that the word 'intifada' also has come to mean a violent uprising in Palestinian territories against Israel," said Joel Levy, New York Regional Director of the Anti-Defamation League, which supports the school.

See **RATNER** on page 6

## RATNER KNEW!

**City: Bruce endangered workers at Yards site**

**By Ariella Cohen**  
The Brooklyn Paper

Atlantic Yards developer Bruce Ratner could have prevented the potentially deadly partial collapse of the Wards Bakery in April that sent bricks raining onto Pacific Street, according to a long-awaited Department of Buildings report.

The seven-page report details years of water damage and neglect that led up to the April 26 collapse of the historic building's 200-foot parapet, concluding that the owner who inherited the damage — Ratner — should have warned demolition workers about the 100-year-old building's dangerous condition.

"Forest City Ratner had been apprised of the deteriora-



See **RATNER** on page 6

## Barack coming back next week

SEE PAGE 16

## NYU eyes Brooklyn

**Opens dorm, seeks 'merger' with Polytechnic Univ.**

**By Ariella Cohen**  
The Brooklyn Paper

New York University is coming to Brooklyn — and so is its voracious appetite for real estate.

The ever-growing private institution, based in Greenwich Village, is opening its first non-Manhattan residence in a Brooklyn Heights apartment tower, and is negotiating what it described as a "merger" with Downtown Brooklyn-based Polytechnic University.

One hundred and fifteen grad-

uate students will move this month into the "silver building" at 67 Livingston St., between Clinton and Court streets, which is named for the way its narrow 26-floors are wedged between buildings on the street. Since the late 1980s, the tower's 76 units served as a dormitory for the Watchtower Bible and Tract Society. In March, a private investor bought it for \$18.6 million and then leased it to NYU.

The dormitory news follows a statement by NYU last week that it is negotiating a "merger" with Polytechnic. Details of the mar-

riage remain in negotiation, but it appears the end result will be a new school of engineering for the Manhattan-based NYU and a boost in prestige for Poly, which lacks the national cachet and flush endowment of NYU.

In a carefully written statement on the school's Web site, Poly President Jerry Hulton envisioned a post-merger institution as "two universities joined."

"We are confident that an agreement will be... highly beneficial to both Polytechnic and NYU," he said.

See **NYU PLANS** on page 6



The Williamsburgh Savings Bank Building clock block.

## TIME WILL NOT TELL

**B'klyn 'clock block' continues for foreseeable future**

**By Dana Rubinstein**  
The Brooklyn Paper

Only time will tell when Brooklyn's own timepiece — the clock atop the 512-foot-tall Williamsburgh Savings Bank tower — will start tolling for us again, despite recent assurances by the building's owner that the beloved four-faced chronograph would be restored by July 4.

Back in May, Andrew MacArthur, a principal at the Dermot Company, which has been transforming the former bank building and dental haven into million-dollar condos, told the Real Deal. "We're aiming to have the renovations done by

the Fourth of July."

But now, more than six weeks after Independence Day, the clock remains cloaked in dour black netting.

"I don't have news, which means we don't know when it will come off," apologized Barbara Wagner, a spokeswoman for the developer. "It's definitely stalled until the fall sometime."

Last year, The Brooklyn Paper reported on the sad disrepair of clocktower, its four faces showing different times, its light bulbs burnt out.

At the time, MacArthur attributed the disrepair to "old money."

"When we bought the building, we were told that the clock would be the

biggest headache and that's turning out right," he said.

Dermot Company is not the first corporation to wrestle with the hands of time. The clock didn't operate for most of the 1970s and 1980s, until Republic National Bank renovated the landmark site.

Ever since the tower, the tallest in Brooklyn, was built in 1929, the clock has helped hapless urbanites keep tabs on that most elusive of forces, Now, it's helping Brooklynites keep time in a different way.

"Now, you kind of think, 'Gosh time goes so fast, and yet here's the clocktower and it's still not repaired,'" said Sharon Barnes, a Clinton Hill resident.

## I paid \$11 for this strange fruit — and I'd do it again!

**T**HE MANGOSTEENS are here! The mangosteens are here! The mangosteens are here! No, I'm not talking about my second cousins (they're the Mangosteens, by the way). I'm talking about the arrival of one of the greatest fruits the world has ever known: the mangosteens.

And Brooklyn is at the center of the mangosteen revolution.

In fact, the only market in the city where you can get these extremely rare purple orbs is the Orchard, a gourmet grocer on Coney Island Avenue in Midwood.

If you know what a mangosteen is, I urge you to go right now (first, take out a loan).

If you don't know what a mangosteen is, you have my pity.

Of course, I'm no expert on this delicacy. How could I be, given that mangosteens — the greatest thing to come from Thailand since "The

King and I" — have never been available commercially in the United States (something about a feat of fruit flies — this from the same government that let the first shipment of the Asian long-horned beetle and the zebra mussel).

That mangosteens will soon be here, but in the interim, the first shipment of these leather-covered pulp balls has come in from a grower in Puerto Rico (if that ain't an argument for statehood, I don't know what is).

In role as your loyal servant, I headed straight for the Orchard to procure just two of



The Brooklyn Paper / Julie Rosenberg

these fragrant fruits (any more than two and I would have had to re-finance my house).

When I got there, there was not a mangosteen to be found. Of course not, at \$45 a pound, owner Mitchell Spitz told me that he can't afford to put them on display.

But he did say the Puerto Rican mangosteens are selling well.

"I've sold 18 pounds of them already," Spitz said (do the math: he can now afford that new addition on the back of his house!). "Who's buying?" Mostly people who have been to Thailand.

Full disclosure: I have been to Thailand. In the memory of the single mangosteen I ate in the night market in Chiang Mai re-

cedes in my mind like high school friends, stuff I learned in college, or remembering what it was like to be able to climb stairs without tiring.

Spitz brought out two mangosteens, but I was the only one who smiled.

"What the hell is that?" asked one of his customers. "It looks spoiled."

"I'd never cut one of those," sniffed another client. "It's ugly."

And then he mentioned the price. The two old ladies audibly groaned.

But I had to have them. The mangosteen is my obsession. Try as I have to summon up its greatness with readily available tropical treats — the creamy durian, the sugary lychee, the cool rambutan — the glory of a mangosteen could not be recreated in the taste buds of my brain. (I'm no Proust, but these things are much better than a

**THE BROOKLYN**

**ANGLE**

**By Gersh Kuntzman**

**FRUITWATCH!**

madeleine.)

So I did it. I paid \$22.95 for two mangosteens.

I got them home and peeled away the thick, plum colored inner flesh to get to the crumpling white fruit nestled within.

My wife, who, during a yearlong sojourn in the Far East a few years back, downed mangosteens like a halflayer munches sunflower seeds, was unimpressed.

"The fragrance isn't there," she sniffed (no, really, she sniffed).

"Face it, at \$45 a pound, this mangosteen should come in a limousine

with a chauffeur who also cleans our kitchen. Besides, the joy of eating a mangosteen is eating it in Thailand. Imagine sending a Bagel Hole bagel to your brother in North Carolina. It's not even worth the bother."

She also reminded me that for the price of 90 mangosteens, I could fly to Thailand (where you can get 10 for a dollar).

She makes a good point — but as I sucked down the slimy, citrus-scented fruit pieces, I didn't care. I was present at the creation of a new fruit craze — and loving it.

Sure, these Puerto Rican mangosteens may not be the real thing. But in 10 years, mangosteens will be as common as kiwis, bok choy and salsa — once-novel taste sensations that are as mainstream as oranges, lettuce and ketchup.

And when that happens, you can proudly say that it all started in Brooklyn.

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# HERE TO GO

## EDITORS' PICKS

**SATURDAY** August 18 **SUNDAY** August 19 **MONDAY** August 20 **WEDNESDAY** August 22 **FRIDAY** August 24



### Greene reads

Check out the Fort Greene Park Summer Literary Festival today, where local kids will read alongside big name writers like Jennifer Egan (pictured) and Gloria Naylor. If it goes well, the park could install a coffee maker and Wi-Fi, ensuring that local writers never leave.

4:30 pm at Fort Greene Park (enter at DeKalb Avenue and Fort Greene Place). Free. For information, visit [www.fortgreene.org](http://www.fortgreene.org).

### Out of the pool

The City's pools might stay open until Labor Day but today's the last party at McCaren Park's pool until next summer. Say goodbye to the hard concrete floor, the slide and all your other summertime friends while Ghostland (pictured) plays on the stage.

2 pm at the McCaren Park Pool (Lorimer Street at Bayard Street in Williamsburg). Free. For information, visit [www.mccarenpark.com](http://www.mccarenpark.com).



### Do the gou

It's August and everyone seems to be leaving town. If you've already cashed in your vacation days, take a night off yourself and head to Cafe Steinhof for a taste of Austria — and a cheap one at that. The Austrian eatery's trademark goulash is only \$5 a bowl from 5 pm-11 pm, so pair it with a frosty mug of Gaffel Kolsch and enjoy a brief but satisfying getaway.

5 pm at Cafe Steinhof (422 Seventh Ave. at 14th Street in Park Slope). \$5 for a bowl of goulash. For information, call (718) 369-7776 or visit [www.cafesteinhof.com](http://www.cafesteinhof.com).

### Party animals

Presidential hopeful — and former Brooklynite — Barack Obama heads to his second fundraiser in the borough. This time, instead of \$1,000, it'll only cost you \$25 to meet the future president of the United States (though maybe not the next president of the United States).

5:30 pm at the Brooklyn Marriott (333 Adams St. between Clark Place and Joralemon Street in Downtown Brooklyn). \$25. For information, call (212) 763-4853.

### Golden Archie

"Riverdale Sock Hop" sounds more like something that would happen in the Bronx than Williamsburg, but tonight at Galapagos, the Inbred Hybrid Collective is hosting the whole-some-sounding bash in honor of comic book hero Archie. Expect burlesque, music, art, magic and more all in celebration of Reggie, Jughead, Betty, Veronica and the red-headed comic who made them what they are.

7:30 at Galapagos Art Space (70 N. Sixth St. at Wythe Avenue in Williamsburg). Free. (718) 782-5188.

## THE DAYS IN BROOKLYN

Compiled by Susan Rosenthal Jay

**SAT, AUG 18**

**OUTDOORS AND TOURS**

**MORNING BIRDS:** Discovery walk at the Salt Marsh of Gerritsen Creek. 8 am. Salt Marsh Center, 3302 Avenue U. Call 311 and ask for the Urban Park Rangers. Free.

**BIRD CLUB:** Join the Urban Park Rangers for a birding tour of scenic Owl's Head Park. Discover what birds make their home here among the park's landscaped slopes and legacy trees. All level of birders welcome. Bring your comfortable walking shoes, dress for the weather and bring water. 9 am. Meet at the Park House. Call 311 and ask for the Urban Park Rangers. Free.

**CANOE GERRITSEN CREEK:** Urban Park Rangers explore the salt marsh of Gerritsen Creek. First come, first served. 10 am. Meet at 12-45 pm. Enter park at 13th Street and Ocean Avenue. (718) 287-3400.

**PEDAL BOATING:** Cruise Brooklyn's freshwater lake in pedal boats. \$15 for one hour, plus \$10 refundable deposit. Noon to 4 pm. Enter Prospect Park near the Parkside and Ocean Avenue entrance. [www.prospectpark.org](http://www.prospectpark.org).

**LULUWATER EXPLORATION:** Enjoy a boat tour detailing Prospect Park's aquatic habitat. Brochure provided. \$10, \$6 kids. Noon to 12-45 pm. Enter park at 13th Street and Ocean Avenue. (718) 287-3400.

**BROWWATCHING CRUISE:** Learn about the history of Prospect Park, from prehistoric times to the present day, while touring one of Prospect Park's most scenic habitats. \$10, \$6 kids. 1:15 pm to 2 pm. Enter park at Lincoln Road and Ocean Avenue. (718) 287-3400.

**PERFORMANCE**

**BARGE MUSIC:** Street art features music by Hayden Schubert. Wine, cookies, cheese and crackers served. Concert at 1 pm. Call for ticket info. Also, classical music performances by Hayden and Schubert. \$40, \$25 students. 8 pm. Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street at the East River. (718) 624-2693.

**GOSSIP FEST:** Third annual Caribbean Gospel music festival. 1 pm. Lincoln Terrace Park, located at Buffalo Avenue and Eastern Parkway. From 1 pm to 9 pm. [www.caribbeanfestival.com](http://www.caribbeanfestival.com).

**SUMMER CONCERT:** Today: Caribbean Cultural Theater. 1 pm. Fort Greene Park, Washington and DeKalb avenues. Sorry, no telephone number. Free.

**MUSIC:** Fulton Street Beat presents music with Jambalaya Brass Band. 1 pm. Dive Bar. 3 pm. Albion Square at DeKalb Avenue, between Flatbush Avenue Extension and Albion Square West. (718) 403-1443. Free.

**OTHER**

**GRAND AVENUE BLOCK PARTY:** Live music, fashion show, food and drink, kids' activities and more along Grand Avenue from Clinton Street and Lafayette Avenue. Starts at 1 pm.

**FLOATING POOL:** at the foot of Joralemon Street. 9 am to 7 pm. Visit [www.brooklynbridgepark.org](http://www.brooklynbridgepark.org).

**WEEKSVILLE FARMERS MARKET:** Farm-fresh produce. 9 am to 1 pm. 1698 Bergen St., between Rochester and Buffalo avenues. (718) 788-8500.

**FLUX MARKET:** hosted by the Church of the Holy Spirit. Refreshments available. 9 am to 4 pm. 8117 Bay Pkwy, at 10th Street. (718) 637-0412.

**INDIE MARKET:** Collection of Brooklyn-based emerging designers show their wares of fashion, accessories, bath and beauty, pet gear, home goods and more. 11 am to 7 pm. Smith and Union streets. [www.brooklynindiemarket.com](http://www.brooklynindiemarket.com).

**BATTLE WEEK:** Opening reception and live hip-hop.

**SUN, AUG 19**

**OUTDOORS AND TOURS**

**BIRD CLUB:** Urban Park Rangers host a bird-watching tour of Owl's Head Park. Meet at Park House, Shore Road and 68th Street. Call 311 for information. Free.

**FLOATING POOL:** at the foot of Joralemon Street.

**ARTWALK 2007:** Meet painter, illustrator and cartoonist Chris Pellerene, as he leads a tour of his exhibition and talks about his work. 55, \$3 children under 17. 1 pm. New York Transit Museum, located at the corner of Boreum Place and Schermerhorn Street. (718) 694-1600.

**FILM SCREENING:** hosted by the NY Transit Museum. Today: "On the Town" (1949). Included in museum admission of \$5, \$3 children under 17. 1:30 pm. New York Transit Museum, located at the corner of Boreum Place and Schermerhorn Street. (718) 694-1600.

**BALL GAME:** Brooklyn Cyclones play the Staten Island Yankees. 6 to 8:15. 4 pm. Also, a Franchino embossed box containing a key chain. 1904 Surf Ave., Coney Island. (718) 507-1000.

**CARTE STENOGRAPH:** "Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat." 6 pm to 9 pm. St. Bernadette's Church, 1313 86th St. Call for more information (718) 907-3422.

**RED HOOK ART SHOW:** Brooklyn Waterfront Artists Coalition presents its "Red Hook Art Show." Meet at Park House, Shore Road and 68th Street. Call 311 for information. Free.

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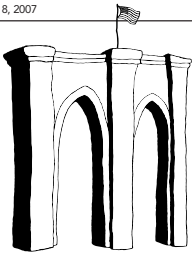
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**CARTE ST**





# THE stoop

BROOKLYN HEIGHTS-DOWNTOWN DUMBO

## The fungus is among us

The stench of raw meat has taken over parts of the Hillside Dog Park on Columbia Heights near Middle Street. But don't look for roadkill. The villain here is a slimy fluorescent orange stalk shooting up between the wood chips and covered with flies.

Say hello to your new neighbor, the Elegant Stinkhorn mushroom.

The Hillside Dog Park, which is covered in wood chips, is practically an all-you-can-eat buffet for the mushroom, which spends its time decomposing the moist, woody pieces.

The Elegant Stinkhorn isn't just any low level fungus, but both ecologically and evolutionarily sophisticated, said Brooklyn's best-known naturalist, Wildman Steve Brill. "Most so-called 'advanced' plants are the flowering plants because they have adapted to use insects or other animals to pollinate or spread their seeds," said Brill. "That's what the Elegant Stinkhorn are doing. More primitive ones just put pollen into the air."

So those buzzing flies are actually the product of complex evolution. The Stinkhorn's cau de toilet is its aroma of decaying flesh, and the flies can't get enough. Lured in by the scent, the flies grab some of the Stinkhorn's sticky slime and spread the mushroom's spores.

Dog owners note that the park has more woodchips this year, which could explain the

### HEIGHTS LOWDOWN



By Juliana Bunim



## Are rou ronna rinish rhat?

Greg Hazelton enjoys a plate of pasta at the Heights Cafe at the corner of Montague and Hicks streets as his 15-month-old Great Dane, Alexander Reykjavik, considers things to come.

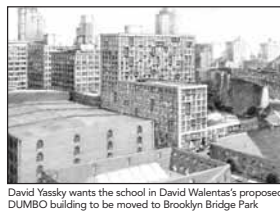
## Yassky schools Walentas on plan

### Says put new MS in Brooklyn Bridge 'Park'

By Ariella Cohen  
The Brooklyn Paper

A Brooklyn Heights law-maker has blown a spitball at DUMBO real-estate baron David Walentas's controversial plan for an 18-story, 400-unit complex near the Brooklyn Bridge by demanding that the 300-seat school—which was included in the project to generate support for the entire plan—actually be built in the state's Brooklyn Bridge Park development nearby.

Councilman David Yassky (D-Brooklyn Heights) slammed Walentas by demanding that the 300-seat school—which was included in the project to generate support for the entire plan—actually be built in the state's Brooklyn Bridge Park development nearby.



David Yassky wants the school in David Walentas's proposed DUMBO building to be moved to Brooklyn Bridge Park.

Yassky said he has already started pitching rival plans to city education officials, including a scheme that would put the school on state-owned property within the proposed waterfront development commonly referred to as Brooklyn Bridge Park.

That "park" will include six commercial building sites, now reserved for luxury apartments, a hotel, shops and restaurants. A concert hall has been talked about as a possibility for the long-vacant Empire Stores warehouse that sits on the park's northern tip in DUMBO.

"I don't know why we can't get one of those existing development sites for a school," Yassky said this week.

Enrol Cockfield, a spokesman for Brooklyn Bridge Park Development Corporation, said that project planners can't comment on putting a school in the development until Yassky presents a formal proposal, which he has not done.

And despite Yassky's objection, the city's school construction czar is in talks with Walentas about the new middle school, something parents in Brooklyn Heights and DUMBO have wanted for years.

"We are talking to [Walentas] and reviewing the need for a middle school in the area," said School Construction Authority President Sharon Greenberger.

It's unclear whether Walentas's Two Trees Management would pay for the school portion of its Dock Street project or if the company expects the city to pick up the tab. Paring with a private developer does typically reduce the city's cost.

Jed Walentas, spokesman for Two Trees, could not be reached for comment on Yassky's counterproposal, but has said that the Dock Street building would "fit perfectly within the existing architectural context of the neighborhood."

This fall, Yassky said he will create a task force to examine other locations for the middle school, including the shuttered St. Charles Bernomeo School in Brooklyn Heights and an unused Metropolitan Transportation Authority office building at 370 Jay St. in Downtown Brooklyn.

## Cops are hunting for this man

The Brooklyn Paper

Cops are hunting this suspect who they believe robbed the North Fork bank branch on Livingston Street on Aug. 6.

According to police, the 6-foot, 175-pound man entered the branch, which is just east of Smith Street, at around noon, pulled a black handgun and threatened the teller.

The teller handed over an un-released amount of cash, sending the robber on his way.

The 40- to 45-year-old was last seen wearing a black cap, gray jacket, black pants, black sneakers and a salt-and-pepper mustache, cops said.

He was also taking a black bag.

Anyone with information is asked to call the CrimeStoppers hotline at (800) 577-TIPS. Police say that all calls are kept confidential.

—Gerish Kuntzman



The man in the black cap and jacket is the suspect in the robbery.

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# THE STOOP

CARROLL GARDENS-COBBLE HILL BOERUM HILL RED HOOK

## City throws ice on vendors

There's too much heat — and not enough ice — at the taco stands at the Red Hook soccer fields.

The beloved Latin American food vendors who sell mouth-watering delicacies each weekend at Red Hook Park have found themselves in the center of a new kind of feeding frenzy, one that will take more than an ear of roasted corn and a few goat tacos to resolve.

First, it was the city's Parks Department that descended on the 18 moon and pop vendors with news that they would have to compete with other food purveyors — including deep-pocketed corporations — for the right to sell food at the fields. There were regulations to uphold! Permits to sell! Rules that must be followed! And so it went.

Foodies cried that the sale of the permits would endanger a dying breed of authentic pupusa. Salsa-lovers everywhere decried the Parks Department enforcers for a lack of heart — and taste buds. "Fight the power! Save the Soccer Tacos!" screamed the Web site, [whiteraslbq.com](http://whiteraslbq.com). Even Sen. Chuck Schumer ate a chimichanga in solidarity.

Then, the Health Department woke up. As it turns out, the city's rat-chasing food-service inspectors were shocked — shocked! — to find that the vendors had been grilling meat and frying tacos at the park for the last 30 years. So while, the vendors have paid annual permit fees of about \$10,000 to operate in the park, they never received food-service permits, or the training that such permits entail.

You know what that means — inspection time!

Two weeks ago, Health inspectors invaded the field, clipboard, thermometers and all. And as it turns out, the main problem seems to be inadequate supplies of ice, according to vendors who received directions for getting their stands up to code.

"They are mostly worried about making sure the [uncooked] meat is cold enough. Everyone is going to have to keep more ice," said Fabian Perez, who runs a popular taco stand with his mother.

Perez and others said that getting up to code would mean small investments in new coolers, more dry ice and possibly, portable sinks. (Already, one portable hand-washing sink has been installed, a plastic contraption with a pedal-operated faucet and a built-in paper-towel dispenser.)

Vendors will also have to obtain food-service permits and start preparing their food in city-inspected commercial kitchens, not at home, a spokeswoman for the Health Department said.

But as with any cloud, there is a silver lining. In this case, the lining is actually black and yellow and chocolate all over.

As I learned last week from vendor Umberto Carillo, *plátano cubierto de chocolate* — the chocolate banana, to all you "Arrested Development" fans — is an essential component of the Guatemalan summer that has been sorely missed on the ballfields. "It's never been cold enough to keep them frozen," Carillo explained.

With more ice in the cooler that will change and summer will be just that much sweeter.

Ariella Cohen, a Red Hook resident, is a staff reporter of The Brooklyn Paper.

## THE KITCHEN SINK

Our pal **Mee Ming-Chee Tan** made it to the Dean's List of Binghamton University's Watson School of Engineering & Applied Science this semester. Keep up the good work, Mee. ... Very convenient show of "An Inconvenient Truth": Al Gore's big-screen debut will be screened on Sunday Aug. 19 at the **Backyard Community Gardens** at the intersection of Hamilton Avenue and 7th Street. The show begins at 8 pm and will be followed by a discussion led by a representative of the Climate Project. Arrive at 4 pm for a potluck celebration of the Columbia Street district. For information, call (718) 858-0452. ... Chlorine confusion: The **Red Hook Pool** closed abruptly on Monday morning after a routine water testing showed improper chlorine levels. But be alarmed, swimmers. The Sink has learned that the pool is back to normal conditions after an in-depth (ha ha) cleaning. ... In effort to quell unrest over a notorious 70-foot tower planned for 360 Smith St., City Planning Director **Amanda Burden** reminded neighborhood activists that the development is "as of right," and that the city can't commit to a timeline for downzoning the neighborhood. In short, get used to the idea of towers in Carroll Gardens because the rezoning trick isn't going to work this time.

Email us at [Stoop@BrooklynPaper.com](mailto:Stoop@BrooklynPaper.com).

## BROOKLYN SOUTH



Ariella Cohen



Three children who were killed in car accidents on busy Third Avenue are alive in a mural at the corner of Butler Street.

## MURAL SUPPORT ON 3RD AVE

By Ariella Cohen

The Brooklyn Paper

A steep sign with a human face is rising over Third Avenue.

A group of traffic safety activists have paired with Boerum Hill teenagers to create a memorial mural commemorating three children who were killed while crossing the busy truck route.

The figures in the mural are white, like the "ghost" bikes that hang on lampposts where bicyclists have been killed. But unlike the bikes, they are huge, monumental — representations that loom above the street.

Such a depiction was intentional, said lead artist Christopher Cardinale.

"Cars are much bigger than

pedestrians," he said. "But the ideal street is one where cars, bikers and pedestrians are in equal balance. Allowing people to see that image is the first step towards making it reality."

James Rice was 4 when he lost his life to a speeding Hummer SUV at a Baltic Street crosswalk in February. Rice was crossing the street with the light, obeying all traffic laws. The driver who killed him received only a ticket for failure to yield.

Juan Estrada and Victor Flores, both fifth graders at PS 124 in Park Slope, were fatally struck almost exactly two years earlier while crossing the av-

enue at a Ninth Street crosswalk. They were also killed while crossing the intersection with the light. The driver said that he hadn't noticed them walking.

The mural, a creation of Transportation Alternatives and Groundswell Community Mural Project, is an attempt to remind people of the human toll of road carelessness, the artists say.

"Drivers are always trying to beat the light," said muralist Laquan Wheeler, 18. "Hopefully, if they look up and see these young kids on the wall, they'll remember to slow down and stop driving crazy."

After the 2004 deaths of Estrada and Flores, the Department of Transportation promised \$4 million worth of traffic safety improvements for Third Avenue. Those fixes, known as the Downtown Brooklyn Traffic-Calming Plan, were never made, according to Transportation Alternatives.

DOT spokesman Ted Timbers said this week that construction on the road improvements would begin next spring. "Included will be sidewalk extensions that are designed explicitly to slow vehicles and reduce risks to pedestrians," Timbers said.

## B'Hill crime down — but not out

By Ariella Cohen

The Brooklyn Paper

Police Commissioner Ray Kelly has declared the bad old days officially over in fast-changing South Brooklyn — but, like Faulkner said, the mayhem of the past isn't dead. In fact, it's not even past.

At a ceremony last month, Kelly presented the 76th Precinct with an award for a major drop in recorded crime. But even as police celebrate the record-low crime rate in Carroll Gardens, Cobble Hill, Park Slope and parts of Boerum Hill, some foul play (really foul, in some cases) continues to plague the area.

In July, a resident of Boerum Hill sounded the alarm after finding human feces on his front stoop. "I just spent my morning cleaning poop off of my stoop," wrote the anonymous victim in an e-mail to the local real-estate Web sites, Curbed and Brownstoner. Just a few weeks after the appearance of the stoop poop, a rash of burglaries had neighbors reminding each other to lock their front gates and replace burnt-out lightbulbs. A fatal shooting in the pre-



More than one photographer captured the moment when Commissioner Ray Kelly shook hands with Captain Michael Kemper.

down hours of last Sunday had one Boerum Hill family contemplating a move.

"We woke up at 3 in the morning to pop-pop-pop of bullets, sirens and helicopters," said Katie Green, a Hoyt Street resi-

dent. "My son was petrified." The gunshots that woke Green and her family on Aug. 11 killed one neighborhood man, 30-year-old Treice Sharpe. The murder is still under investigation by police, but it comes as a tragic reminder of the dangers that remain within the neighborhood of millions-dollar brownstones and towering housing projects.

Green said that she feels like a "line" divides affluent parts of the neighborhood from poorer areas where drug-dealing and violence are common. Indeed, the killing, which happened a few blocks from her Hoyt Street home near Gowanus Houses, reminded her of that border's permeability.

"My husband said, 'Are we really going to raise two children a block away from where there were gunshots,'" she said. So far this year in the 76th Precinct, there have been five rapes, 67 robberies, 43 assaults, 46 burglaries and 127 robberies of more than \$1,000 — 20 percent less total crime than over the same period last year and a whopping 68 percent less crime than there was over that period in 1993.

Leslie Lewis, a police liaison for Borough Hall said crime rates would continue to drop, but admitted that the good numbers can't change another important reality: how people perceive their safety.

"Perception and the reality are different things," he said.

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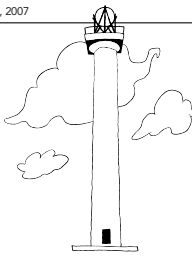
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# THE STOOP

FORT GREENE-CLINTON HILL

## Six degrees of renovation

It has taken six years for the city to build a two-story community center for the Ingersoll Houses. How long is that? Well, in 1927, it took builders just three years to build the Williamsburgh Savings Bank building — the tallest in Brooklyn. The Empire State Building was built in just one year.

"It's not reasonable," said Marvin Cruckshank, a community organizer for Families United for Racial and Economic Equality. "Look how fast the Oro [a 40-story tower just off Flatbush Avenue Extension] went up! Look how fast the J Condo [33 stories in DUMBO] went up!"

### GREENE ACRES



Dana Rubinstein

Indeed, both the Oro and the J are slated for completion at around the same time as the community center (even though the community center got head starts of five and four years, respectively).

"The community center is complete and is currently in the 'sign-off phase,'" said Howard Mander, spokesman for the New York City Housing Authority, which is overseeing the project. "Now, they're going through the punch list, the little things."

Mander could only confirm that construction on the center began in 2002. Residents recall the center closing for renovation in 2001.

"Once they get the temporary certificate of occupancy, then they have to apply to the Department of Health of Mental Hygiene for a permit, because of the kitchen. So when they say 'fall 2007,' it could be late fall or into the winter. But it's not that far away. The work is basically completed."

Residents of the Ingersoll Houses, the public housing residents for whom the center is primarily intended, are nothing if not fed up.

"If you have a teenager who was 12 years old when the center was shut down for renovations, now that teenager is 18," said Ed Brown, the president of the Ingersoll Tenants Association. "That's six years that the kid could have been in a program receiving mental health services, or literacy training, or been in a gang prevention program. We have a whole generation of teenagers who have been in limbo."

That is, a whole generation of teenagers living in a deeply under-served community with few recreational outlets who could have benefited from the \$6.7-million center's gymnasium, art and crafts room, computer lab, library, and game room. Not to mention the panoply of social services that are supposed to be slated for the center.

That generation includes kids like Brown's son, now 20 and a long-time honors student, who recently survived being shot six times in a dispute over a woman.

"You can only do so much when the resources aren't there," said Brown. "We need that center. We need that center bad."

Councilwoman Letitia James (D-Fort Greene) agreed. "It's been closed since before I got elected, and I'm almost in my fourth year, and still no center," said James. "And, we've had a number of incidents in Ingersoll and Whitman."

But Mander defended the city's seeming lethargy. "Sometimes things take longer than you want," said Mander. "But I can guarantee you, it's just part of the overall construction process."

Staff writer Dana Rubinstein lives in Crown Heights.

### THE KITCHEN SINK

Curious what the connection is between Walt Whitman, Fort Greene and Clinton Hill? Wonder no longer. On Sunday, the **Clinton Hill Art Gallery**, as part of its third annual **August Sunday Summer Sizzler** series, will hold a parlor chat with **Greg Trupiano**, artistic director of the **Walt Whitman Project**. For information and reservations, call (718) 852-0227 or (718) 857-0074. ... Calling all budding Coltranes: auditions are fast approaching for **Long Island University's** "Jazz Saturdays" free master classes for young jazz and seniors. For information, call **Robert Aquino**, chair of the music department at (718) 488-1668 or email him [robert.aquino@liu.edu](mailto:robert.aquino@liu.edu). ... Our pals **Yuan-yuan Chen**, **Kevin DiBenedetto**, and **Jamie Wong** — Brooklyn all made the Dean's List at SUNY Binghamton last semester. Congrats!

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## Flippin' Out

This boarded up brownstone, on Fulton Street between Clinton and Waverly avenues, was recently snapped up by a development group for \$953,000, presumably to be converted into luxury condos. While the new owner did not respond to a request for comment, one thing's for sure: the seller made a handy profit. The building was purchased in 2005 for \$200,000.

## Rapes spike in 88th Precinct

By Dana Rubinstein

The Brooklyn Paper

Cops are examining why there has been an "uptick" in alleged rape cases in Fort Greene and Clinton Hill. So far this year, there have been nine rapes in the 88th Precinct, which encompasses Fort Greene and Clinton Hill. That's a 125-percent increase over the same period last year, when there were four rapes.

"The 88th Precinct is an experiencing an uptick," acknowledged Gene Whyte, a spokesman for the NYPD. "But it is part of the ongoing discussion at CompStat meetings, and people should realize crime is still down overall."

Under the CompStat program, precincts maintain statistics on particular categories of

### Rapes on the rise

The 88th Precinct, which covers Fort Greene and Clinton Hill, has seen mixed results on crime this year. Here's a snapshot crimes committed through Aug. 12 compared to the same period last year. Source: NYPD

CATEGORY	2007	2006	% chg
MURDER	5	6	-16.6
RAPE	9	4	125
ROBBERY	129	174	-25.8
ASSAULT	112	89	25.8
BURGLARY	98	103	-4.8
GRAND LARCENY	287	261	9.9
CAR THEFT	73	69	5.8

crime so that commanders can figure out where to allocate scarce resources. The program also allows the brass at One Police Plaza to hold individual commanding officers accountable for increases in crime.

Whyte said the numbers don't tell the whole story.

The precinct has actually seen a 59-percent decrease in rape cases since 1993.

But that statistic didn't change the perception of at least one Fort Greene woman. "To be perfectly honest, I don't feel very safe walking around at night," said Clara Presler, who lives near the intersection of Carlton and DeKalb avenues. "My boyfriend got mugged right outside my apartment one night and ... two teenagers harassed me, wouldn't let me pass, and then threw an object at me when I got passed them."

She said that as a result, she is often forced to take a cab rather than walk alone after dark.

The rape "uptick" was not the only alarming number on the precinct's CompStat sheet this week. Felony assaults are also up nearly 26 percent, from 89 last year to 112 this year. Grand larceny and auto thefts are also up 10 percent and 6 percent respectively.

New York City's Fair replica bench, or less than half that for a mere half of a bench, you'd best act now.

If it's any encouragement, you'll be joining the ranks of the novelist Richard Wright, who already has a bench dedicated to his memory near the Martyrs

Memorial. Wright is believed to have written his classic novel "Native Son" in the park.

The difference — other than the fact that you've never written such a seminal novel — is that no one in Wright's family paid for the bench. It was paid for by local fans.

Interested park-lovers interested should e-mail Jim Barnes at [texilehe@aol.com](mailto:texilehe@aol.com).

There's also been one fewer murder, five, in the statistical period that ended on Aug. 12.

## Approach the bench

By Dana Rubinstein

The Brooklyn Paper

Fort Greene Park may get three-dozen new benches — but don't start plopping down in celebration just yet. The park only gets the goods if people "sponsor" the benches by coughing up \$3,000 a pop.

Following on the heels of its wealthier cousins, the Fort Greene Park Conservancy will install new park benches if locals dig deep and honor the beloved benchwarmers in their lives.

But unlike those much larger parks, which have a seemingly endless supply of space in which to place new benches, the Parks Department has identified only enough room for 37 new benches.

"The locations are limited. [so] we anticipate they will go fast," read an announcement in the Fort Greene Park Conservancy's newsletter.

### \$3K gets you one in F'Greene Park

So if you're willing to fork over three large to sponsor an entire, eight-foot-long, 1939 New York World's Fair replica bench, or less than half that for a mere half of a bench, you'd best act now.

If it's any encouragement, you'll be joining the ranks of the novelist Richard Wright, who already has a bench dedicated to his memory near the Martyrs

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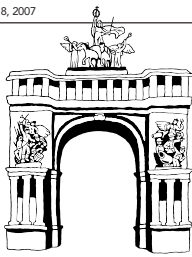
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# THE STOOP

PARK SLOPE PROSPECT HEIGHTS, SUNSET PARK  
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## Sugar story's grand finale

In two earlier columns, we told the story of the how the Havemeyer family produced a series of cunning businessmen who built a small family sugar company into one of America's — and the world's — great fortunes.

The most ruthless Havemeyer male of them all was the "Sugar King," H.O. Havemeyer, who, from his East River waterfront throne, ruled a vast empire that exploited workers from the Caribbean to Asia; inflated sugar prices across the U.S.; and wielded enough political influence to instigate the Spanish-American War.

The family had another side — a patrician, philanthropic, politically progressive side. A prime exemplar of these qualities was Louise Elder Havemeyer, also known as Mrs. H.O. Havemeyer.

The union of H.O. and Louise took place in the context of an inbred family situation typical of the American WASP elite. The El-

ders and the Havemeyers were New York sugar families that performed a complicated merger both at the altar and in the board-

room. From age 15, H.O. was raised by Louise's parents and later married Louise's aunt. H.O.'s older sister married Louise's uncle. Finally, in 1883 H.O. divorced his first wife and married her

much younger niece, Louise.

Louise and H.O. complemented each other. Running what at the time was a vast legal monopoly — the American Sugar Refining Company — H.O. perfected the art of making boatloads of money. Louise perfected the art of spending it.

Traveling to France as a young woman, Louise befriended

the American Impressionist painter Mary Cassatt. One day, the pair spotted a pas-

seur for sale by the then-un-

known Edgar Degas; at Park Slope and Red Hook — a

mere four weeks after a neighborhood organization asked for them.

We installed about 60 bike racks within Community Bound 6," said Joshua Benson, the bicycle program coordinator for the Department of Transportation.

"The only contender [for more racks] in Brooklyn would be Greenpoint and Williamsburg,"

Park Slope also has the most cyclist commuters of any neighborhood in New York City, according to a Department of City planning survey released in May.

Normally, the city's turn-around time after receiving a request for a bike rack is two months. In this case, it was only a couple of weeks, thanks, in large part, to the Park Slope Civil Council, which noted the locations of Schwinn chained

to trees and Bianchis to lamp-

posts. A large grouping of chained wheels was taken as an indicator of bike-rack need.

Council volunteers, led by Lauri Schindler, got request forms from the property owners and community board, and then — phew! — submitted a request for 18 bike racks in late May.

And voila! As fast as Lance Armstrong in a bike lane, a few weeks later, the city installed those — and 40 more.

"A big part of [making our transportation infrastructure green] is giving people ways to get around the city that don't involve combustion engines," said Benson, who commutes to work on a single-speed bicycle.

I hope that the ones they put in won't meet with objections," said Craig Hammerman, district manager of Community 6. "The city seems to think it can just install bike racks wherever it wants."

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THE  
STOOP

Continued from page 3

sever and his antislavery laws. A 1921 consent decree reduced American sugar's effective control of the industry from 72 percent to 24 percent.

H.O. Havemeyer put up a tenuous defense. He popularized the Domino brand with its trademark white tablets and convinced Congress to support the price of sugar in order to discourage foreign imports.

H.O. is long gone, but his innovations are still with us, even if they have not always had the effect intended by their inventor. Decades of price supports, which have kept the price of sugar in the United States as high as four or five times the international price, eventually led many soft drink and candy makers to switch from cane sugar to high fructose corn syrup, a sweetener that many health experts blame for today's American epidemic of obesity, diabetes and heart disease.

Price supports have also devastated the economies of sugar-growing regions such as the Caribbean. This has had two other effects: to cause social and political disruption that has necessitated frequent visits by the U.S. military, and to provoke mass immigration, especially by Puerto Ricans, who as American citizens have found it easy to come to New York to find jobs to replace those lost by the willful destruction of the Caribbean sugar industry.

The irony of this is particularly stark in Williamsburg. Tens of thousands of Caribbean immigrants and their descendants have outstayed H.O. Havemeyer's mighty Domino sugar refinery, yet are no longer needed now that raw sugar imports have dwindled. Indeed, the famed factory itself will soon be converted to thousands of apartments, mostly luxury.

Tom Gilbert is a historian and writer who lives in Greenpoint.

## THE KITCHEN SINK

**Applewares**, an offshoot of the popular 11th Street restaurant, **Applewood**, has opened in the old Otto space on 10th Street, just east of Seventh Avenue. The store will sell high-end professional cookware for DIY foodies. ... You know him as your friendly neighborhood hardware man, but our pal **Harry Tarzian** has just joined the likes of another **Jonathan Lethem**, former Yankee **Jim Bouton**, actor **Steve Buscemi** and greatest writer of his generation, **Jonathan Safran Foer**, on the **Develop Don't Destroy Brooklyn** advisory board. That's nice, but do you know that Harry is also an award-winning photographer? Check out his Brooklyn shots at <http://www.harrytarzian.com>. ... A squad of 10-year-olds from Park Slope's own **Brooklyn Bulldogs of the 78th Precinct Youth Council** baseball league won the summer national championship in Myrtle Beach last month. Of course, we saw it coming when pitcher **Joe Fernandez** repeatedly struck out our editor, **Gersh Kuntzman**, in a simulated game last September. ... Our Community Board 14 pal, District Manager **Terry Rodie**, is retiring after serving on the Kensington board for close to 30 years. Her assistant, **Doris Ortiz**, now fills the big shoes.

4 PSZ

THE BROOKLYN PAPER • WWW.BROOKLYNPAPER.COM • (718) 834-9350

August 18, 2007

# Traffic mural puts a face on death

By Ariella Cohen

The Brooklyn Paper

A stop sign with a human face is rising over Third Avenue.

A group of traffic safety activists have paired with area teenagers to create a memorial mural commemorating three children who were killed while crossing the busy truck route.

The figures in the mural are white, like the "ghost" bikes that hang on lampposts where bicyclists have been killed. But unlike the bikes, they are huge, monumental representations that loom above the street.

Such a depiction was intentional, said lead artist Christopher Cardinale.

"Cars are much bigger than pedestrians," he said. "But the ideal street is one where cars, bikers and pedestrians are in equal balance. Allowing people

to see that image is the first step to wards making it reality."

James Rice was 4 when he lost his life to a speeding Hummer SUV at a Baltic Street crosswalk in February. Rice was crossing the street with the light, obeying all traffic laws. The driver, who killed him received only a ticket for failure to yield.

Juan Estrada and Victor Flores, both fifth graders at PS 124 in Park Slope, were fatally struck almost exactly two years earlier while crossing the avenue at a Ninth Street crosswalk. They were also killed while crossing the intersection with the light. The driver said that he hadn't noticed them walking.

The mural, a creation of Transportation Alternatives and Groundswell Community Mural Project, is an attempt to remind people of the human toll of road carelessness, the artists say.

"Drivers are always trying to beat the light," said muralist Lagoon Wheeler, 18. "Hopefully, if they look up and see these young kids on the wall, they'll remember to slow down and stop driving crazy."

After the 2004 deaths of Estrada and Flores, the Department of Transportation promised \$4 million worth of safety improvements for Third Avenue. Those fixes, known as the Downtown Brooklyn Traffic-Calming Plan, were never made, according to Transportation Alternatives.

DOT spokesman Ted Timbers said this week that construction on the road improvements would begin next spring.

Included will be sidewalk extensions that are designed explicitly to slow vehicles and reduce risks to pedestrians, Timbers said.



Three children who were killed in car accidents on busy Third Avenue are alive in a mural at the corner of Butler Street.

# Burglars hit 4 apartments and a church

By Gersh Kuntzman

The Brooklyn Paper

At least four apartments and one church were broken into — and another church almost broken into — last week in a spate of burglaries. Here's a rundown:

• On Aug. 7, a 41-year-old Bergen Street man lost his laptop computer, digital projector and iPod after a thief or thieves broke into his apartment sometime between 11 p.m. and 6 p.m., the victim told cops. The apartment is at 10th Street and Flatbush Avenue.

• Also on Aug. 7, a Sterling Place church lost a CD player

and an Epson printer in a 4:30 p.m. burglary. The church is between Seventh and Flatbush avenues.

• On Aug. 8, two perps broke into a woman's Dean Street apartment at around 1:30 p.m. The 26-year-old said the thugs moved through the house and took a suitcase under her bed that contained \$400. The apartment is between Fourth and Fifth avenues.

• On Aug. 9, a thief or thieves broke into a Fourth Avenue apartment at around 10 p.m. and took three laptop computers valued at more than \$4,000.

The 22-year-old victim said

## POLICE BLOTTER

the thugs entered through an unsecured rear window in the apartment, which is at Third Street.

• On Aug. 10, a 10th Street apartment was broken into and nearly \$2,000 in jewelry was swiped, cops said.

The burglary occurred sometime between 8 a.m. and noon, according to the 32-year-old victim. The thief or thieves had entered through a patio window in the building, which is at Fourth Avenue.

Street, said the 5-foot-6, 160-pound white man left without taking anything.

## Shelter in storm

More than \$3,400 was stolen from the safe inside an Eighth Avenue woman's shelter — and the director says that only five employees know the combination to the lock.

On Aug. 6, the center's director told cops that when she opened the safe that morning, she discovered that \$3,480 was missing from three "clients' saving envelopes" that had been secured in the safe, which is in the director's office on the second floor of the building, which is in the armory at 14th Street.

## Painful crime

A man who had just come out of the emergency room at New York Methodist Hospital was wounded again — this time when his wallet was swiped from his belongings while he recuperated on Aug. 2.

The 40-year-old man left the ER shortly after noon, but later awoke to discover that the wallet — which contained credit cards and \$369 — was gone.

A week later, a hospital worker had her wallet stolen out of the pocket of his pants, which had been hanging in his office at around 9 a.m. The 41-year-old victim lost credit cards, he told cops.

## Screwed

A man walked off with thousands of dollars in construction equipment on Aug. 6 after a resident of a Third Street building let him in because she thought he was one of the workers.

The victim told cops that the 5-foot-8, 180-pound worker showed up around 9:15 a.m. at the building, which is between Fourth and Fifth avenues. Five hours later, a cordless drill, two nail guns, air compressor and a screw gun were gone.

Total value of the haul was \$3,504, cops said.

## Left overtone

A man who left fancy electronic equipment in a package in his Eighth Avenue lobby on Aug. 6 returned a few minutes later to find the merchandise gone.

The 47-year-old victim told cops that he'd left his laptop and Smart card in his lobby at around 10 p.m., but five minutes later it was gone.

## Lock the bike

A man who left two unlocked bikes in front of a Fourth Avenue building on Aug. 8 returned 15 minutes later to find the wheels gone.

Two Trek bikes — each valued at \$1,000 — were taken from in front of the building, which is at Douglas Street, in the 7th p.m. crime.

The victim lives on Avenue C in Manhattan, where, apparently, you can leave a fancy mountain bike unlocked.

## Prayer rob

A 72-year-old woman had her purse stolen while she was inside an Eighth Avenue church on Aug. 10.

The woman told cops that her bag had been on the floor of the church, which is between Sixth and Seventh streets, at around 9:45 a.m.

## Wheel watch

At least two cars — both fancy — were stolen off Park Slope streets on Aug. 10.

The first car, a 1995 Mercedes Benz, had been parked on Eighth Street between Third and Fourth avenues at around 6 p.m. When its owner returned from work eight hours later, the only thing in the spot was someone else's car.

Later that day, a 1997 BMW was swiped from a spot near the corner of Sixth Avenue and First Street. The owner told cops that he had parked the car at around 10 p.m. Three hours later, it was gone.

## Purse purloined

If there is one basic rule of shopping, it is this: always take your purse or wallet after completing the transaction.

One Staten Island woman learned that lesson the hard way on Aug. 11 when she lost \$120 and various credit cards after leaving her handbag at a Fifth Avenue department store.

The woman told cops that she'd finished making her purchases at around 4:45 p.m. and

walked out of the store, which is between Ninth and 10th streets, without the purse.

Cops said the video surveillance tape shows the next customer on line paying for her purchases by using money from the victim's handbag.

## Bank robbed

A Fifth Avenue bank branch was robbed on Aug. 11 after a short man slipped a note to the teller at around 2:10 p.m., cops said. Very little description is available on the 5-foot-6 thief, who was wearing a blue cap. Cops could not even release the amount of money he stole from the bank, which is at North Street.

## Bicycle thief

A thief riding a bicycle swiped the purse off a woman's shoulder on Aug. 11, but hours later was arrested with the purse in his possession, cops said.

The woman told police that she had been walking near the corner of Eighth Avenue and 11th Street at around 4:30 p.m. when the 48-year-old thug rolled up on his bicycle and grabbed the purse.

He was arrested on Third Avenue and 10th Street, cops said.

## Garbage out

A perp tried the old "garbage can" trick at a popular Second Avenue hardware store on Aug. 12, using the self-service check-out counter to pay for a garbage can, but trying to walk out with more than \$1,000 in merchandise inside the can.

A security guard quickly intervened and held the 39-year-old man until cops could arrive.

The man had filled the garbage can with various pieces of hardware, including a shower spigot and kitchen accessories.

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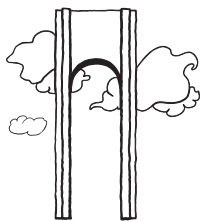
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# THE STOOP

BAY RIDGE-BENSONHURST DYKER HEIGHTS BATH BEACH

## Tornado brings out the best

**S**ometimes government can work. That was the rare conclusion of this columnist, whose libertarian politics range somewhere in that tight anti-government space between Frederic Bastiat and Milton Friedman. But after the remarkably quick and efficient response by our local government officials in the wake of last Wednesday's tornado, even I have to tip my hat.

It wasn't easy. Yellow Hooker is naturally cynical of people deciding what I should eat, smoke and how to spend my paycheck (damn those never-ending Ratner subsidies!), never mind entrusting the same people who gave us the Department of Motor Vehicles with protecting me in a time of crisis (one word: FEMA).

Still, local officials deserve credit for an organized and well implemented plan in quickly getting Bay Ridge back on its feet and minimizing the effect of the first tornado to touch down in Brooklyn in over a century.

In short, it was an example of government at its best — at a time when the community was most in need. After all, Bay Ridge was hit by a tornado!

The rare twister that ripped through our community came like a thief in the morning.

Residents were awakened between 5:30 and 6 am by the sound of car alarms, thunder, and trees crashing down to the ground as the powerful wind attacked.

Tornadoes have hit New York City before, but not often. The National Weather Service had records of at least five, but none as strong as Wednesday's twister, which had winds in high

as 135 mph. The last reported tornado sighting in Brooklyn was in '89 — 1889, that is.

Given that roofs were ripped off houses and trees were flying all over the place, you'd think residents would be in a state of sheer panic.

But actually, they weren't. Most residents could be found calmly waiting for emergency personnel to arrive. Some were going door-to-door to check on their neighbors, while others

waxed next to their smashed-up cars in their backyards and

drinks drinking their coffee.

Perhaps residents knew something about local emergency crews that this columnist did not. It was a thing of beauty.

Fire trucks and police cars immediately arrived at the hard-

est-hit spots.

Workers were in a state of constant motion, first making sure people were safe, then clearing debris and directing traffic. A full-blown symphony was taking place right before my eyes with the entire community in full harmony.

By 2 pm, almost all the streets were cleared and life in Bay Ridge was beginning to have a feel of normalcy again.

Of course, for residents who no longer have a roof to sleep under, it may take some time before normalcy really takes hold, but Bay Ridge was quickly back in business.

At the risk of losing some of my libertarian street cred, this columnist must admit a newfound confidence in those commissars of local government.

But then again, I didn't have to use public transportation that morning.

## THE KITCHEN SINK

The Red Cross is now accepting donations for those in need after last Wednesday's tornado. Stop by **Councilman Vince Gentile's** office, located at 8703 Third Ave., for more info. ... Take comfort, women. **Rep. Vito Fossella** (R-Bay Ridge) called on the Japanese government to apologize to the 200,000 "comfort women" who were forced into sexual slavery by the Japanese Army in the 1930s and '40s. ... Our pal **Chiu Tran** was just named to the Dean's List at SUNY Binghamton. ... So, you think you can dance? Check out the guy in the wheelchair. Local legend **Carmine Santa Maria** may find it hard to walk, but that hasn't stopped him from his work as a dance instructor. "I can't walk too well, but I know how to teach it," said Santa Maria. For more info, call (718) 946-0234. ... The **Brooklyn Chapter of the American Institute of Architects** is helping homeowners whose properties were damaged in last week's tornado to find architects to do the repairs. Call (718) 259-0070. But before doing any work, get a permit from the Department of Buildings, which can be reached at (718) 802-4035. ... State Sen. **Marty Golden** (R-Bay Ridge) hosted a public hearing at **Fort Hamilton Army Base** on Wednesday to discuss local homeland security issues, such as the safety of the Buckeye jet fuel pipeline that runs through the neighborhood. Community Board 10 Chairman **Dean Rasinyo** was also there. **E-mail us at [Stoop@BrooklynPaper.com](mailto:Stoop@BrooklynPaper.com)**

## FEMA inspects damage

By **Matthew Lysiak**  
*The Brooklyn Paper*

Five days after an extremely rare tornado caused millions of dollars of damage in Bay Ridge, officials from the Federal Emergency Management Agency — you remember them from Hurricane Katrina — surveyed the area to determine if some residents are eligible for federal aid.

But the agency made no promises.

"They looked at the damage and told us we make a good case for assistance," said Carol Marines, who works at the badly damaged Fourth Avenue Presbyterian Church, at 67th Street, which got a visit from FEMA inspectors at around noon on Monday.

The church lost its historic stained-glass windows, including a 25-foot-tall religious scene installed in 1951, to the tornado's 136-mile-per-hour gusts, which touched down around the corner of 67th Street and Fourth Avenue last Wednesday at around 5:30 am and damaged 100 cars and 60 homes — half of which suffered serious structural damage, according to state Sen. Marty Golden (R-Bay Ridge).

FEMA spokeswoman Kristina Simpson made it clear that none of the inspectors, who went door-to-door at one point, was taking a checkbook.

"This is the gathering of information," said Simpson. "When walking up and down the streets and talking to folks here, the thing that became clear is there was all this confusion about whether they should call FEMA. The answer is no. The first step they need to take is call their insurance companies."

Many cheered the federal officials, but some thought their fact-finding mission needed a bit more, how you say, cash.

"Insurance is only going to give so much," said John Quiglionio, a Golden aide. "We're hoping the federal government does intervene to give financial assistance to homeowners and car owners."

Others blasted the federal bureaucracy for moving too slowly.

"This is ridiculous that help is so slow to come," said Hassan Hakmoun, who was busy moving his relatives out of their house at 339 Bay Ridge Ave. "They'll be fine staying with me, but there are a lot of families who may not be so fortunate."



This block of Bay Ridge Avenue, between Third and Fourth avenues, shows the aftermath of the tornado that hit Bay Ridge last week.

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Captain John McKenna

By Matthew Lysiak

The Brooklyn Paper

Police Commissioner Ray Kelly will be there in the flesh, but the real hero will be in everyone's memories.

Bay Ridge's Marine Captain John McKenna, 30, who died in

Iraq after being shot while coming to the aid of fallen comrade — and fellow Brooklynite — Lance Cpl. Michael Glover, will be honored with a charity golf tournament on Sept. 24.

McKenna sustained the fatal gunshot wound on Aug. 16 while conducting combat operations in Anbar

province — Iraq's Wild West West. McKenna, the highest ranked Iraq War casualty in Brooklyn, was awarded the Silver Star for "gallantry in action against an enemy of the United States."

He had already served one tour in Iraq, joining the invasion at the very start. After a yearlong stint in

the state police, he returned to active duty in Iraq, unable to sit idly by as more and more young men died.

"Without question, John is a true hero," said Gov. Eliot Spitzer. "He courageously gave his life in service of others."

All proceeds of the tournament

will support the Injured Marine Semper Par Fund, the NYS Trooper Foundation and the NYPD/NYFD Widows and Orphans Fund.

"This is a young man who didn't have to go back to war — it was his choice to honor his country," said family friend and charity organizer Ed Schloeman. "It was an honor to know

a man of such outstanding character as Marine Captain John McKenna."

The Captain John J. McKenna IV and Lt. Col. Michael D. Glover 1st Annual Golf Tournament will be held on Sept. 24 at the Richmond County Country Club (135 Flagg Pl., in Staten Island). For information, call (718) 436-0021.

## Stabbing haunts Club Shadows

By Matthew Lysiak

The Brooklyn Paper

A man was stabbed outside of Club Shadows, the embattled Fourth Avenue nightclub, on Aug. 10, police said.

The victim told cops that he was standing alone when two unfamiliar men approached him at 3 a.m. At some point, an argument began and one of the men pulled a knife and stabbed the 24-year-old in the chest.

The thugs fled, and the wounded club-hopper was treated and released at Maimonides Medical Center in nearby Borough Park.

The violent incident at the doorway of the controversial club comes after a June 5 fight at the establishment — and both incidents could damage the bar's chance of retaining its liquor license amid ongoing negotiations with the State Liquor Authority over other charges.

"Any time the police have to be called and there is violence, the board takes it very seriously," said Bill Crowley, a spokesman for the State Liquor Authority. "A business with a

liquor license is expected to maintain control over its property."

The June 5 fight occurred as Shadows owners were trying to settle earlier SLA charges — including a serious count of not having a proper liquor license.

The latest charges — stemming from the violent incidents — are separate matters, which mean two more trials, Crowley said.

Club Shadows, which is between 90th and 91st streets, got on the community radar screen last November, when a sign featuring the silhouette of a curvy woman was installed. The sign also promised "exotic dancers" at the Nov. 30 opening.

The strippers never materialized, but the troubles were only beginning.

Councilman Vince Gentile (D-Bay Ridge) brought SLA inspectors to the opening, and the agency hit Club Shadows with the four original violations.

Shadows lawyer William Spanakos could not be reached for comment.

## Breaks into kitchen, steals \$1,000 knife

By Matthew Lysiak

and Michael Gidra

The Brooklyn Paper

**68th Precinct**

This must be one nice kitchen.

A thief with a taste for fine cutlery broke into a Third Avenue restaurant and made off

with some change and one expensive knife on Aug. 11.

An employee discovered the robbery shortly after he opened the doors at 1 p.m. and noticed an exhaust fan in the kitchen

had been pushed into to create a hole through which the perp

crawled into the restaurant, which is near 92nd Street.

Further inspection revealed the register opened and \$100 in

## POLICE BLOTTER

change missing. But the biggest loss was the high-end knife, which was valued at \$1,000, cops said.

**Brooklyn cell**

A gang of five mugged a 19-year-old man for his iPod and phone as he walked on 11th Avenue on Aug. 10.

The victim told police that he was near the corner of 78th Street at 12:35 a.m. when the quartet approached him and demanded his phone.

The men didn't wait for the phone to be handed over, grabbing it, plus the man's iPod, before fleeing on 78th Street.

**Brutal mug**

A man was beaten in the face and robbed on Fort Hamilton Parkway on August 10.

The 53-year-old victim was walking near 79th Street at 8:15 p.m. when he was blind-sided by a punch in the head followed by a swift kick to the face. The thug then stole \$240 out of the victim's pocket before fleeing in an unknown direction on foot, according to cops.

**Violent beating**

A man was violently beaten and robbed on 85th Street on Aug. 12.

## Crime drops

The 68th Precinct, which covers Bay Ridge and Dyker Heights, has seen a large drop in crime this year. Here's a snapshot of crimes committed through Aug. 12 compared to the same period last year.

Source: NYPD

CATEGORY	2007	2006	% chg
MURDER	2	1	100
RAPE	6	3	100
ROBBERY	65	77	-15.5
ASSAULT	70	85	-17.6
BURGLARY	182	212	-14.1
GRAND LARCENY	249	291	-14.4
CAR THEFT	127	149	-14.7

The 52-year-old victim was punched in the back of the neck while walking near Seventh Avenue shortly before 4 p.m. Once the man fell to the ground, the thug then punched him in the face several more times before stealing his wallet and fleeing in an unknown direction on foot, according to cops.

Fortunately, the wallet had no cash.

**62nd Precinct**

**Wallet fumble**

A man's wallet was swiped by a thief with chutzpah on 65th Street, near 24th Avenue, on Aug. 11.

The 49-year-old victim didn't realize his wallet, which contained \$150 and his credit and debit cards, was gone until after the thief had fled.

But this wasn't the end of it. Moments later, the victim received a phone call from the thief asking for his ATM code — which he foolishly gave to the perp, police said.

With the new information, the sneaky thug managed to make two purchases with the cards before the victim could cancel them.

**Cuisine steal**

An 86th Street restaurant was robbed by sneaky thieves who broke through a sliding door and stole more than \$700 on Aug. 10, police said.

The eatery, which is near 22nd Avenue, was broken into at around 4 a.m. The thugs fled the store before cops arrived, but unfortunately for them it was all caught on video surveillance.

**Daytime burg**

A woman returned to her West Sixth Street apartment to find that thugs had broken in, ransacked the place and stole

her property on Aug. 8.

The 21-year-old came back to her home, which is near Avenue O, at around 5:30 p.m. While she was away at work, the thieves managed to bust open her front door and steal \$5,000 in electronics, cash and jewelry, police said.

**Cash and carry**

A man told cops that \$100,000 — in cash! — was stolen out of a safe in his Bay 32nd Street apartment on Aug. 8.

The 37-year-old left his home, which is near 86th Street, at around 5:30 a.m., and returned to find that thieves had ransacked the apartment and stolen his prized safe, which contained \$100,000, and jewelry, he told cops.

**Biking blues**

A 24-year-old who had his bike stolen by three thugs in a 19th Avenue park, later helped cops nab the trio on Aug. 7.

The bike swipe occurred within the park, which is near 80th Street, at around 12:25 p.m. The group of thugs surrounded victim and swiped his blue mountain bike.

With the help of the victim, police caught the trio a couple of blocks down from the playground, and returned the bike to its rightful owner.

**Workout woes**

A man had his wallet stolen on Aug. 7 as he worked out in an 86th Street gym that is a well known to Police Blotter readers as a frequent crime scene.

The 45-year-old man finished his workout at the gym, which is near 19th Avenue, at around 6:40 p.m. to find his wallet missing from his locker.

The thieves took \$150, and charged more than \$76 on his credit cards, police said.



The Great Wall Supermarket on Fort Hamilton Parkway.

## 'Great' stench still vexes neighbors

By Matthew Lysiak

The Brooklyn Paper

This great wall needs more mending.

Last month, Great Wall Supermarket on Fort Hamilton Parkway near 67th Street agreed to remedy community concerns about trash, traffic and noise — but two weeks later, the situation still stinks, according to neighbors.

The grocer did address some of the problems, like silencing the beeping forklifts and getting rid of some of the produce bins, but residents say the issues of traffic and stench still lurk.

"Efforts have been made," said resident Nina Batistio. "But the garbage maintenance, traffic and smell remain a serious problem."

The trouble began in June, shortly after the Chinese market opened and began selling fish and produce on the side-

walk. The smell of the seafood, combined with the garbage from the grocer, caused a stench that permeated the surrounding blocks. The noise of the air conditioner and traffic problems caused by deliveries also irked residents.

Locals quickly mobilized a petition drive and took their case to Community Board 10, where they hammered out an agreement with the supermarket, which agreed to change its smelly ways, according to Dana Beecher, who is representing Great Wall.

Despite the neighbors' ongoing complaints, the market insists it is doing what it can, and at the end of the day believes it will come out smelling like roses, according to Beecher.

"We are not going to fault residents," said Beecher. "There are still a lot of loose ends that need to be tied up, but this is a work in progress."

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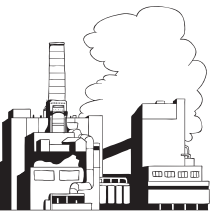
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## Sugar story's grand finale

In two earlier columns, we told the story of the how the Havemeyer family produced a series of cunning businessmen who built a small family sugar company into one of America's — and the world's — great fortunes.

The most ruthless Havemeyer male of them all was the "Sugar King," H.O. Havemeyer, who from his East River waterfront throne ruled a vast empire that exploited workers from the Caribbean to Asia; inflated sugar prices across the U.S.; and wielded enough political influence to instigate the Spanish-American War.

The family had another side — a patriotic, philanthropic, politically progressive side. A prime exemplar of these qualities was Louise Elker Havemeyer, also known as Mrs. H.O. Havemeyer.

The union of H.O. and Louise took place in the context of an inbred family situation typical of the American WASP elite. The Elders and the Havemeyers were New York sugar families that performed a complicated merger both at the altar and in the boardroom. From age 15, H.O. was raised by Louise's parents and later married Louise's aunt. H.O.'s older sister married Louise's uncle. Finally, in 1883 H.O. divorced his first wife and married her much younger niece, Louise.

Louise and H.O. complemented each other. Running what at the time was a vast legal monopoly — the American Sugar Refining Company — H.O. perfected the art of making bookends of money. Louise perfected the art of spending it.

Traveling to France as a young woman, Louise befriended the American Impressionist painter Mary Cassatt. One day, the pair spotted a pastel for sale by the then-unknown Edgar Degas. At Mary's urging, Louise bought it for 500 francs, or about \$100. Degas wrote her a thank you note, telling her how badly he needed the money. (The same pastel was sold by Louise's grandson in 1965 for \$410,000.)

This was the beginning of a productive partnership. As Louise later said, "Miss Cassatt was ever ready to recommend, Mr. Havemeyer to buy, and I to find a place for, the pictures in her gallery."

Throughout the first two decades of the 20th century, the Havemeyers assembled an astonishing art collection. Pursuing European treasures with the same aggressiveness that he employed in swallowing up business competitors, H.O. became furious when the Italian government prevented him from exporting Botticelli's Birth of Venus.

Nevertheless, besides numerous Degas, the pair was able to buy hundreds, if not thousands, of works by Veronese, Rubens, Rembrandt, El Greco, Goya, Corot, Cezanne, Renoir, Monet and Manet.

The Havemeyer's Romanesque mansion at Fifth Avenue and 66th street put the best of America's public art museums to shame. Mrs. Havemeyer's passions also extended to radical politics. She bankrolled the women's suffrage movement, giving fiery speeches enlivened by an automated model of the Mayflower covered with strings of electric light bulbs. She was even arrested trying to burn an effigy of President Wilson during a demonstration on the White House lawn. Refusing to pay a \$5 fine, she spent three days in jail.

Meanwhile, back at the plantation, H.O. and the Sugar Trust were dealt a series of business reversals at the hands of Teddy Roosevelt and his antitrust laws. A 1921 consent decree reduced American Sugar's effective control of the industry from 72 percent to 24 percent.

H.O. Havemeyer put up a tenuous defense. He popularized the Domino brand with its trademark white tablets and convinced Congress to support the price of sugar in order to discourage foreign imports.

H.O. is long gone, but his innovations are still with us, even if they have not always had the effect intended by their inventor. Decades of price supports, which have kept the price of sugar in the United States as high as four or five times the international price, eventually led many soft drink and candy makers to switch from cane sugar to high-fructose corn syrup, a sweetener that many health experts blame for today's American epidemic of obesity, diabetes and heart disease.

Price supports have also devastated the economies of sugar-growing regions such as the Caribbean. This has had two further effects: to cause social and political disruption that has necessitated frequent visits by the U.S. military; and to provoke mass immigration, especially by Puerto Ricans, who as American citizens have found it easy to come to New York to find jobs to replace those lost by the willful destruction of the Caribbean sugar industry.

The irony of this is particularly stark in Williamsburg. Tens of thousands of Caribbean immigrants and their descendants have outstayed H.O. Havemeyer's mighty Domino sugar refinery, yet are no longer needed now that raw sugar imports have dwindled. Indeed, the faded factory itself will soon be converted to thousands of apartments, mostly luxury.

The story of Louise Havemeyer ends with a staggering act of philanthropy and humility. When she died at 73 in 1929, she left more than 1,000 paintings and sculptures to the Metropolitan Museum of Art. The Havemeyer collection remains the biggest single part of the Met. Unlike most benefactors, however, Louise gave her gift with no requirements that her name be attached or that the works be exhibited in a certain way.

"I have made very few stipulations in my will in regard to the placing or care of the collection because I believe there are those who are as intelligent and as interested as I in the care and conservation of a valuable gift," she wrote.

In the words of art critic Michael Kimmelman, "One of the ultimate tributes that can be paid to Louise and Henry Osborne Havemeyer is that very few of the Metropolitan's visitors today have a clue as to who they were."

Tom Gilbert is a historian and writer who lives in Greenpoint.



Tom Gilbert

## In Bushwick, life isn't for the dogs

### Dirty streets among the problems faced by pet owners

By Chris Casciaro  
for The Brooklyn Paper

Pet owners who see the backyards and quiet residential streets of east Williamsburg and Bushwick as a doggie heaven might want to think again.

Many newcomers to the quickly gentrifying neighborhoods are finding that life there can be difficult for their friends.

Their litany of complaints, which includes the preponderance of indigenous fighting dogs and dangerous waste on the streets with heavy truck traffic, have been discussed at the blog [bushwickbitch.com](http://bushwickbitch.com).

"I moved here because the apartments were perfect for pets," said Matt Magee, who relocated from Arizona. "But the neighborhood is just not safe for dogs."

To some newcomers, the "fighting dogs" — mostly pit bulls — are the biggest threat.

There is a lot of dog fighting in Bushwick, said Jamison Brossas, who claimed to have adopted a fighting dog he found left for dead on a nearby street.

If you walk your dog by one of the dogs trained to fight, they will attack it," he said.

To help solve the problem, Lardie is seeking a fenced-off



Matt Magee attempts to corral a stray dog on Ingham Street near Morgan Avenue in Bushwick.

dog run in nearby Maria Hernandez Park.

The run would help keep dogs off the garbage-cluttered streets in the neighborhood.

"There are chicken bones all over the street," said Lardie. "And they can splinter in dogs' throats if they try to eat them."

Other residents fear their dogs may be exposed to the dirty water that floods the gutters, which they say can include runoff from small steel shops.

"Ugly red-colored water pours down the gutter and my dog always wants to drink it," said one dog owner who didn't want to give his name. "It's red-colored and I don't even know what it is in."

Industry in the neighborhood brings an abundance of trucks, which pose another threat to dogs.

"A [stray] dog wandering around here will just get hit by a truck," said Matt Magee, who found a bread-loaf sized dog among the factories on Tuesday.

"I've done this a bunch of times," said Magee as he stood at the corner of Bogart and Grattan streets with the tired, scared dog in a duffel bag while he searched for its owner.

"I just can't leave a dog out here," he said. "This just isn't a safe place for dogs."

## City's racking up bikes on Bedford Ave.

By Chris O'Connell  
for The Brooklyn Paper

Hipsters with bikes commuting from Williamsburg into Manhattan have a hassle-free ride to look forward to — if everything goes as planned.

In an effort to eliminate automobile congestion and provide Bedford Avenue station-boarding L train riders a safe place to leave their bikes for eight-plus hours a day, the Department of Transportation has installed nine new bike racks outside what Deputy Press Secretary for the DOT Chris Gilbride refers to as the "mass transit hub of Williamsburg."

Gilbride says that the main reason for the new racks is to discourage commuters from North Brooklyn to Manhattan from driving their cars to the subway.

This is the first time we've removed car space to accommodate bike parking in New York City," he said. "Anyone who has been to Williamsburg knows that this is important, as cycling is booming in the neighborhood."

The initiative, part of the City Racks Program — which has installed 600 new bike racks in Brooklyn since 1996 — will, depending on who you ask, accommodate 30 extra cyclists or merely create a target for bike thieves in the neighborhood.

Some riders, like Greenpoint-dwelling graphic designer Benjamin Running, applaud the city's actions, saying, "I rarely rode my bike to the Bedford stop before the new racks were installed because there was rarely space available for bike parking. Every sign post, street light, fence and whatever else had bikes locked to it."

He said the new racks raised awareness of the increased bike congestion at Bedford Avenue.

"Abandoned bikes had built up over time, so many of the available spots were kind of permanently occupied," says Running. "There were also several raids where police removed locked bikes with no notice. This was not a friendly environment for locking your bike."

However, several bike-to-L regulars, like Greenpoint writer/activist Chris Thomason, say that this increased attention to the locked-up bikes has already turned negative.

"At first I was pretty excited about the new racks at Bedford," he said. "Then last week as I was locking it up there, a girl walked over and told me her bike had just been stolen from that exact bike rack the night before. She just stared at me until I was spooked into biking to Lorimer Street station and locking it in front of the nice, safe pizzeria."

Craig Murphy, a south Williamsburg resident, often rides his bike all the way to Harlem, where he works as an Anti-Hunger Community Organizer. Like Thomason, he rarely utilizes the new racks, as he feels that

there aren't enough to accommodate the plethora of new riders.

"It's still a pain to find a nearby spot to lock up," said Murphy.

"It seems like there are certainly more bikes locked up around there these days, which to me means that the demand is still exceeding the supply and they should really work on that."

While reactions to the bike racks have been both positive and negative, the Department of Transportation views the racks as an integral part of PLANET 2030, an initiative unveiled by



Bike racks near the L-train subway station on Bedford Avenue allow commuters a more secure car-free trek to Manhattan.

Mayor Bloomberg on Earth Day that is zeroing in on cycling as a major solution to environmental concerns in the city.

In addition to the racks, which can be requested in any other neighborhood by dialing 311 and filing a report, the city also has a three-year bike lane expansion plan underway as well as the inception of the official NYC bike helmet, which has been distributed for free to over 3000 city bikes this year.

However, getting Williamsburg hipsters to nix up their deliberate cars will be an entirely different, arduous task in itself.

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## Timeline of a debacle

It's hard to imagine a less auspicious beginning for the city's fledgling Arabic language and culture academy than to see its founding principal resign just weeks before the beginning of the school year — and then get replaced by a Jewish woman who doesn't speak Arabic. Here's how the Khalil Gibran International Academy went so terribly awry.

**February 12, 2007**  
The Department of Education announces plans for the Khalil Gibran International Academy, to be located somewhere in Brooklyn. Speculation ensues as to where the school will be sited.

**March 12, 2007**  
Two parents send Schools Chancellor Joel Klein a letter complaining that the academy would "invade" PS 282 in Park Slope with a program that "is an abdication of the basic principle behind public education [by setting] up separate schools to teach uncritically one history and one culture."

**March 16, 2007**  
Parents protest at PS 282, while Gibran principal Debbie Almontaser tours the building with her PS 282 counterpart and city officials. Almontaser does not speak publicly, further alienating the school from the Park Slope community.

**April 24 and 30, 2007**  
New York Sun columnists Daniel Pipes and Alicia Colon begin what would become months of broadsides against the notion of an Arabic language and culture academy. "How delight-ed Osama bin Laden and Al Qaeda must have been to hear the news," Colon wrote.

**May 4, 2007**  
The city backs off the PS 282 plan, but announces four days later that the academy would be housed within a middle school/high school on Dean Street in Boerum Hill.

**Aug. 14, 2007**  
The city selects a Jewish educator as interim principal of the Arabic language and culture Khalil Gibran International Academy. Salzman speaks no Arabic and has no apparent expertise in Arab culture.

**Aug. 10, 2007**  
Almontaser submits her resignation letter, citing "her critics' intolerant and hateful tone."

**Aug. 9, 2007**  
Randi Weingarten, head of the city's powerful teachers' union, publicly criticizes Almontaser's handling of the situation.

**Aug. 6, 2007**  
A New York Post story links Almontaser to an organization that sells "Intifada NYC" T-shirts. Almontaser defends the shirts, saying that "Intifada" literally means "shaking off." The comment sparks criticism. The next day, Almontaser called the T-shirts "completely inappropriate."

**May 19, 2007**  
Almontaser tells The Brooklyn Paper that she sympathizes with parents, but said she had no role in deciding the school's location.

**May 14, 2007**  
The two Boerum Hill PTAs hold an emergency meeting and complain of a lack of space and about the city's poor consultation. The city sends a damage-control team that includes Almontaser, Deputy Mayor Dennis Walcott, and Garth Harries, the head of the city's "New Schools" division.

## City now seeking 'Railroad' ties

By Dana Rubinstein

The Brooklyn Paper

Oh the irony: After spending more than two years preparing for the demolition of Duffield Street homes that many believe were stations on the Underground Railroad, the Bloomberg Administration now says it wants to "to commemorate abolitionist activity that occurred in Brooklyn in the 1800s."

Bloomberg announced on Monday the creation of a six-member panel to honor Abolitionist history in Brooklyn — even as the destruction of

seven houses on Duffield and Gold streets, near Willowly Street is slated to go forward in 2009. Their destruction will make way for Willowly Square — a park and underground garage that is the centerpiece of the mayor's Downtown Brooklyn Plan.

Preservationists were not appeased. "The issue still remains that we have physical reminders of the Abolitionist movement, and the city is seemingly intending to move forward with their demolition," said Simon Bankoff, the executive director of the Historic Districts Council.

One of the seven houses, at 227 Duffield St.,

belonged to Thomas and Harriet Truesdell, prominent Brooklyn Abolitionists. A number of the homes' basements have tunnels that may have been used to help slaves escape to freedom.

In April, a consulting firm hired by the city cast doubt on the houses' ties to the Underground Railroad. But critics quickly questioned whether the firm, AKRF, could be impartial, given that it was hired and paid for by a city government intent on paving over the Duffield Street houses.

Indeed, at a subsequent City Council hearing, the firm admitted that it had never employed an archaeologist to investigate the validity of the

historical claims. Moreover, eight of the 12 experts hired to peer-review the report disagreed with it. One of those reviewers was Jim Driscoll, president of the Queens Historical Society, who called the mayor's move "a poor substitute."

"They're talking about spending \$2 million [on this commemorative effort]," said Driscoll. "How much more would it cost them to set aside 227 Duffield St.? Why not remove that house from the project and turn that into a museum?" The six-member panel is charged with finding a cultural group to operate commemorative programming this fall.

## GIBRAN...

Continued from page 1

The same day her remarks were printed, Almontaser issued a much stronger condemnation of the T-shirt, but the damage was done. Randi Weingarten, the head of the powerful teachers' union, criticized Almontaser's handling of the situation on Aug. 9, and the next day, Almontaser resigned in a very angry letter to the Department of Education that railed against the "intolerant and hateful tone" of her critics.

"I have grown increasingly concerned that these few outsiders will disrupt the community of learning when the Academy opens," she wrote in the letter leaked to the New York Sun, ironically the paper that arguably did the most to bring down the school.

The appointment of Salzman did not end the controversy. Like Almontaser, Salzman is a veteran of the city's educational bureaucracy. But unlike Almontaser, she is a practicing Jew who belongs to an Upper West Side synagogue and knows no Arabic.

"Is [Salzman] ideal, no," said Levy, of the Anti-Defamation League. "Can she be the principal of the school? Yes."

Abdur-Rahman Farakkhan, the imam at Masjid Al-Jamaliyah in Brownsville and a friend of Almontaser's, was less diplomatic. "I would hope they would find someone with the requisite experience and knowledge to give people the best light on our culture," he said.

Mayor Bloomberg brushed off such criticism. "Well, [Salzman] has a lot of experience in starting schools and in working within the system and handling the most difficult tasks that we come up with in the schools," Hizzoner said at a recent press conference.

"And, you know, you don't have to speak Arabic in order to run a school. You have to make sure that you have the resources, have the right teachers, they get the right training."

At least one prominent supporter of the school agreed. "I think it's a good move," said the Rev. Daniel Meeter of Park Slope's Old First Reformed Church. "It demonstrates the non-sectarian character of this school."

Almontaser could not be reached for comment, and her voice mail was full. She has not spoken about her resignation publicly.

Salzman did not respond to two requests for comment. From the time its creation was made public, the Khalil Gibran Academy was a lightning rod for criticism of the Department of Education.

Drawing parallels to the city's botched effort to change school bus routes mid-winter, parents and administrators complained bitterly about the department's foisting of a new school onto existing buildings just as the summer got underway.

The department sparked outrage not once, but twice, by trying to squeeze the middle-school-level Academy into two Brooklyn schools without consulting the principals or Parent-Teacher Associations first.

The city finally won the support of parents at the second school, on Dean Street, that will soon share space with the Academy, by promising much needed improvements to the school building.

Khalil Gibran Academy is named for the acclaimed Lebanese-American Christian writer.

## RATNER...

Continued from page 1

tion ... but the extent of the deterioration and the risk of the collapse had apparently not been communicated to the crew," the report states.

The parapet fell only days after workers began demolishing the ornate, tile-covered Wards building to make room for a parking lot within the controversial residential, retail, office-space and arena complex.

Miraculously, no one was injured by the falling debris, which crashed down more than 50 feet and totaled several cars.

Upon completion of the report, Forest City was hit with violations for failing to maintain an exterior building wall and removing a sidewalk safety shed while preparing the site for demolition work and failing to replace it.

"Given the deteriorated condition of the facade and parapet, the asbestos removal should not have proceeded without protective measures in place," the report said.

Gateway Demolition, a Forest City contractor, received a lesser violation for failing to protect workers.

Atlantic Yards opponents were slightly vindicated by the news that Ratner would be fined for the collapse — but still not satisfied. "Given the history of the construction here, there must be more oversight," said Peter Krashes, a resident of Dean Street.

Owing to a company policy, Forest City Ratner didn't respond to questions from The Brooklyn Paper. Company executive Bruce Bender told the Daily News that the company believed "that all safety measures were being taken" at the time of the accident.

Before the messy demolition began, the Wards Bakery building was considered for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places.

## NYU PLANS...

Continued from page 1

But while the merger would be a push onto a larger, national stage for Brooklyn-born Poly, it appears the school would sacrifice some independence in the deal.

"Poly would be part of the NYU network. The specifics are what we will work out in the coming weeks," said NYU President John Sexton, a former Brooklynite who was chair of the Religion Department at St. Francis College in Brooklyn Heights before his move to NYU.

Sexton said that the merger could pave the way for an expansion of other programs in his former stomping grounds.

"[Brooklyn] is a wonderful location to build other programs," he said in an interview with The Brooklyn Paper. "It remains to be seen how this would be done, but my guess is that we would complement Polytechnic's programming with continuing education offerings."

Sexton said NYU hasn't ruled out opening more dorms in Brooklyn.

"Faculty and students have been moving [to Brooklyn] on their own for years so it wouldn't be surprising to see more residential developments as well," he said.

A van will provide late night service between the NYU campus and the across-the-bridge dorm.

Local business owners looked forward to the new kids on the block, but hoped the students would know when to drop the books.

"Young people may be good for our business," said Joe Saccoccio, who runs the Heights Café on Montague Street.

"The neighborhood has become very family-oriented. More students would diversify things."

One building in the neighborhood, the St. George Hotel on Clark Street, is already occupied by students from Pace University and other non-Brooklyn-based private colleges.

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The Brooklyn Paper's essential guide to the Borough of Kings

August 18, 2007

# School of rock

Forget arts and crafts, local girls rock out at summer music camp



The Brooklyn Paper / John Turner

**Bass camp:** Willie Mae Rock Campers Hugo Orozco (foreground) and Avery Homer practice their instruments in preparation for the big end-of-session concert on Aug. 25. At right, the campers enjoy a live rock show at lunch time.

By Juliana Bunim  
for the Brooklyn Paper

No matter how high the mercury gets this summer, inside Downtown Brooklyn's Willie Mae Rock Camp for Girls, things couldn't be cooler.

You won't find any lanyard making or ping pong playing at this camp, named after blues singer and rock pioneer Willie Mae "Big Mama" Thornton. Campers here are more likely to be strumming guitars, flashing friendship bracelets, and identify with Thornton, who played harmonica and drums and sang "Hound Dog" long before it was covered by Elvis.

Many of the girls, who range in age from 8-18, have little or no musical training, but by the end of the two one-week sessions, they can play chord changes, maintain a rhythm and, most importantly, rock out.

Girls who do have more experience often lend their expertise, helping to write songs and lead the less-experienced campers along. During the course of an action-packed session, campers form a band, write an original song and get it ready to perform. The Saturday after a session ends, they take the stage to perform for a raucous audience of family and friends.

As with most rock bands, plenty of the credit belongs to the behind-the-scenes crew. It isn't agents or managers who are pulling the strings here, but a team of devoted counselors. These unpaid rockers make sure their girls can hold a tune, but also want to ensure that they hold their heads up high.

"It's about the music," said camp organizer Connie Wahn. "But it's really all about self-esteem and empowerment for these young women."

In addition to learning rock on their own, these budding superstars meet professional

rockers who share their own stories and songs each day at lunch. Beyond being just another activity, the visitors show campers that making music can be a full-time gig.

Guests like Rasputina, blues legend Ann Rabson, too-famous-for-a-last-name cellist Martin and post-punk band Boyscout play for the kids, but also answer pressing questions like "What should we name our band," and "Do they make clip-on nose rings?"

"These musicians rock," said Rachel Tallant, 14, before popping in her earplugs.

While all the counselors are donating their time, some are also utilizing their musical talent. Band coach

Jessie Nelson, an Arizona

resident who came to Brooklyn specifically to work at the camp. "Some play lots of instruments, other specialize in one, like me."

These specialties are on display as the kids take classes like "Band Merchandising," where they learn to silkscreen t-shirts, make buttons and design album covers. In the "History of Women Who Rock" class, they discuss leading ladies of music from Billie Holiday and Patsy Cline to Debbie Harry and Missy Elliott. Other classes teach songwriting, instrument building and self-defense.

After lunch, it's all about the band as the girls work with their coaches to sharpen their original lyrics and guitar licks. The 96 girls are grouped by age, forming 15 bands with names like "The Sour Sugar" and "The Distortions."

"Band practice is fun, but it's really hard," said camper Athena Foster, 8. "It's not just about you playing, because sometimes your bandmates mess up." And no one can sit out. Everyone contributes, either by playing an instrument, singing or, in the case of the electronically inclined, DJing.



The Brooklyn Paper / Graham Lanning

## CINEMA

### Seoul'd out

It's been said that what kung fu movies are to Hong Kong, tearjerker melodramas are to Korea. This year's edition of the New York Korean Film Festival, beginning Aug. 21 at the Brooklyn Academy of Music, makes the point in spades.

Though "Come, Come Upwards" portrays the spiritual and ethical dilemmas of young Buddhist nuns, and "200 Pound Beauty" is a slick romantic comedy about pop stardom and radical plastic surgery, they both eventually get around to inflicting emotional (and usually physical) brutality on their protagonists.

No exception to this rule of thumb is "The King and the Clown," a costume comedy-drama about Chosun Dynasty street performers whose vulgar skit on the king's sex life entangles them in palace intrigue. A recent Korean blockbuster, it was considered groundbreaking for its treatment of barely concealed gay romance. And from beginning to end, it could only have been made in Korea.

The 2007 New York Korean Film Festival runs through Sept. 2 at BAM Rose Cinemas (30 Lafayette Ave., at Ashland Place in Fort Greene). Admission is \$11. For information, call (718) 636-4100 or visit [www.koreafilmmfestival.org](http://www.koreafilmmfestival.org).

—Michael Wells

## EVENT

### War stories

The Battle of Brooklyn may have been 231 years ago, but thanks to "Battle Week," it's not too late to join up.

The seven-day battle was the debut of the United States Army — bye bye militia! — and muskets were firing in what is now Prospect Park and Green-Wood Cemetery.

On Aug. 19, amble on a free walking tour of Evergreens Cemetery, or, if you've always wanted to sail the Gowanus, take a tour by canoe.

If your Colonial garb is collecting dust, Aug. 26 is the best time to break it out. At 12:30 pm, Revolutionary War re-enactors are conducting a firing demonstration, complete with infantry and artillery, on part of the actual battlefield in Green-Wood Cemetery. Later that day, the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy Band will march up Battle Hill to the Altar of Liberty, a Revolutionary War memorial at the highest point in Brooklyn.

"Battle Week" is Aug. 16-26. For information visit [www.thedstonhouse.org](http://www.thedstonhouse.org).

—Juliana Bunim

## THEATER

### Triple play

Despite their mostly victorious season, the Cyclopes aren't the only game in town this summer. Beginning on Aug. 25, "The Summer King," a jazz opera telling the story of 1930s Negro League star Josh Gibson — who is rumored to be the only player to ever hit a fair ball out of Yankee Stadium — is coming to stages across the borough.

"Brooklyn was such an epicenter for the Negro League," said Matt Grey of American Opera Projects. "[The Summer King] is one of the few operas we could really take outside here and get a very unique audience response."

And if that isn't enough motivation, Major League Baseball merchandise will be raffled off at each performance. "This is our first chance to get this music out to neighborhoods and communities that we believe will connect strongly with the material," said AOP Executive Director Charles Jordan. "[And who] might be seeing live opera for the first time."

"The Summer King" will be performed at 2:30 pm on Aug. 25 in front of Five Miles Gallery (550 St. Johns Pl., at Classon Avenue in Prospect Heights). For information and additional engagements, call (718) 398-4024 or visit [www.operaprojects.org](http://www.operaprojects.org).

—Lauren Dula

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# BROOKLYN

## Neighborhood Dining Guide

This week:  
**WILLIAMSBURG & GREENPOINT**

### Brooklyn Label

1780 Franklin St., at Java Street in Greenpoint, (718) 389-2806, [www.brooklynlabel.com](http://www.brooklynlabel.com) (AmEx, MC, Visa) Entrees: \$5-\$12.   
Located in the 150-year-old Astor Building, Brooklyn Label brings a fresh twist to its old school spot. For ravenous eaters, the brunch menu's Chili Colorado bowl will surely do the trick with stewed pork chili, soft cheese potatoes, two poached eggs, toast and pepper and toast. When And get these early. "We serve 400 brunches a day on the weekends," chef and owner Cody Umanoff told GO Brooklyn. Highlights from the new dinner menu include: Prices: Edward island mussels with fennel, orange, chili flakes and white wine, and several varieties of macaroni and cheese, including "spicy" and "baud." Open Monday through Friday from 7 am-10pm, Saturday 9 am-10 pm and Sunday from 9 am-4pm. Brunch is available on weekends from 9 am-4 pm.

### Fornino

187 Bedford Ave., between North Sixth and North Seventh streets in Williamsburg, (718) 384-6004 (AmEx, MC, Visa) Entrees: \$10-\$23.   
Fornino's gourmet pizza has been making people salivate since 2003, when Michael Ayoub opened this wood-fired pizza joint. Homegrown and high quality ingredients like hand-picked avocados and garlic spice up every pie. Highlights include the classic margherita, a \$50 black truffle pizza and the "la Raker" — a tortosa cheese, caramelized onion, sopressata, roasted red pepper and rosemary pie that the neighborhood proberly isn't eating too many of after his gastric bypass surgery. Open Sunday through Thursday from noon-11 pm and on Friday and Saturday from noon-midnight.

### Juliette

135 N. Fifth St., between Bedford Avenue and Berry Street in Williamsburg, (718) 388-9222, [www.juliettemary.com](http://www.juliettemary.com) (AmEx) Entrees: \$14-\$22.   
This spacious and elegant French bistro features a 1930s antique bar and a winter garden — perfect for private parties. Try to sit at the garden open bar and dig into a lot of lamb, can't roasted Berkshire pork for a quick protein fix. Or, if you're craving lighter fare, try the roasted vegetables with couscous or the salmon tartare — GO Brooklyn's Tina Barry said it was, "brings with notes of grape and citrus and has a spark of heat from finely diced pimiento peppers." The truly decadent will top it all off with the sticky date pudding or a slice of rich warm chocolate cake. Open daily for dinner Monday through Thursday from 5 pm-midnight, Friday and Saturday from 5 pm-1 am and Sunday 5 pm-1 pm. Brunch is available on weekends from 10:30 am-4 pm.

### San Loco

160 N. Fourth St., at Driggs Avenue in Williamsburg.   
★ = Full review available at [www.brooklynpaper.com](http://www.brooklynpaper.com)   
Abbreviation Key: AmEx=American Express, DC=Diner's Club, Disc=Discover Card, MC=MasterCard, Visa=Visa Card



French toast at the William Taft diner.

(718) 218-8479 (Cash only) Entrees: \$17-\$55.75.   
After the success of its three Manhattan locations, San Loco Taft came to Williamsburg in 2006 and offers one of the best dining options for low budget, late night hipsters. They're open until 5 am on the weekends and 4 am during the week, dishing up their popular slow-cooked chicken and fresh guacamole. The menu of South-of-the-border staples like burritos, tacos, soups and salads go perfectly with a round of root and a couple cocktails — so you can hang out here from happy hour until the wee hours. Open Sunday through Wednesday from 11 am-4 am and Thursday through Saturday from 11 am-5 am.

### Teddy's Bar & Grill

96 Berry St., at North Eighth Street in Williamsburg, (718) 384-7187 (MC, Visa) Entrees: \$4.95-\$17.95.   
Co-owner Felicia Kirby proudly affirms that the reason why Teddy's Bar & Grill has been in business for more than 115 years is simple because of the "friendly neighborhood service and great value of wine and food." The menu offers dishes such as the "Cabana shrimp," stuffed with spicy cheese, wrapped in a smoked pork and served with Caribbean califlower and seasoned rice. Chef Roger Wein has added Korean barbecue ribs to a menu that also features 10 ounce burgers — made with beef ground only — and other comfort food. On Fridays, there's an all-day happy hour featuring fish for \$8.95. Teddy's has 10 beers on tap and is serious about its wine selection. Open Monday through Friday from 11 am-1 am, 6 pm-1 am and on weekends from 11:30 am-5 pm, 6 pm-2 am.

### The William Taft

155 Calyer St., between Lorimer and Guernsey streets in Greenpoint, (718) 389-0144 (MC, Visa) Entrees: \$5-\$9.   
The William Taft may only open in June of 2007, the veggie-friendly joint already makes guests feel right at home. The communal style kitchen allows diners to chat with the chef over avocado tacos, or watch movies in the backroom starting at 9 pm on nights. Main course features soups and salad with the bulk of the entrees being sandwiches like the "fantastic," with grilled toso, avocado, sun-dried tomatoes, basil and hummus. Or drink your meal with one of their soy shakes or smoothies, which can contain everything from pomegranates to chocolate and bananas. Open daily from 8 am-midnight.

Editor's note: These are a sampling of restaurants in the neighborhood. The list rotates, and it is not comprehensive. For more restaurants, go to [www.brooklynpaper.com](http://www.brooklynpaper.com) on the Web, if you're not a subscriber, or contact us at 718-388-9222 or please contact GO Brooklyn Editor Lisa Curtis via e-mail at [Curtis@brooklynpaper.com](mailto:Curtis@brooklynpaper.com).

# Roll Call

Tina gets her claws on the borough's best lobster rolls

By Tina Barry  
for The Brooklyn Paper

A tuna sandwich might only cost \$5, but ask for lobster tossed with a year mayo instead — a lobster roll — and the price, even at a humble fish market, could skyrocket to almost \$30. I was prepared to shell out for the lure, fishy treat, but was shocked to find that one of the borough's best lobster rolls cost just \$7.99 at Fairway in Red Hook.

With the famous roll from Red's Eats in Wiscasset Maine — fresh lobster boiled briefly, heaped into a toasted, lightly buttered hot dog roll and served with a cup of melted butter or mayonnaise — serving as my guide, I set out to see if Brooklyn had a lobster roll that would please both my mouth and my wallet.



The lobster roll at Fairway Market.

### Fairway

The best bargain on dry land is at Fairway's Market Cafe, where a hefty lobster roll (above), a perfect half-pound pick, tart coleslaw and chips set me back just \$7.99. Yes, the mayo to meat ratio was higher than that seen in the \$20-\$28 range, but this roll was no shrimp — literally; according to Fairway, the roll is all lobster. The meat was chunky and sweet, with bits of celery adding a pleasant crunch. The hot dog bun that it came perched in was fresh and lightly toasted. And eating the sandwich in the outdoor seating area with the salty tang of the water waiting past the tables? That's as close to Maine as I'm going to get in Brooklyn.

## DINING

**Brooklyn Fish Camp** (162 Fifth Ave., between Douglas and Degraw streets in Park Slope) accepts American Express, MasterCard and Visa. Lobster roll: Market price. The restaurant serves lunch and dinner Monday through Sunday. Subway: R to Union Street. For information, call (718) 763-3264 or visit [www.brooklynfishcamp.com](http://www.brooklynfishcamp.com).

**Fairway Market** (500 Van Brunt St., near Third Street in Red Hook) accepts MasterCard and Visa. The cafe is open daily from 11 am-8 pm. Lobster roll: \$7.99. Subway: F to Smith and 9th Street, transfer for the B77 to Van Brunt and Van Dyke streets. For information, call (718) 694-6880 or visit [www.fairwaymarket.com](http://www.fairwaymarket.com).

**Fish Tales** (1914 Court St., between Bergen and Wyckoff streets in Cobble Hill) accepts Discover, MasterCard and Visa. Lobster roll: \$20. The store is open Monday through Friday from 9 am-8 pm, Saturday from 9 am-6 pm. Closed Sunday. Subway: F to Canal Street. For information, call (718) 246-1346.

**Surf Bar** (129 N. Sixth St., at Bedford Avenue in Williamsburg) accepts MasterCard and Visa. Lobster roll: \$14 with chips \$15 with fries. The bar is open for lunch and dinner daily. Subway: L to Bedford Avenue. For information, call (718) 300-4441.

**Union Smith Cafe** (305 Smith St., at Union Street in Carroll Gardens) accepts Discover, MasterCard and Visa. Lobster roll: \$16. Brunch, lunch and dinner are served daily. Subway: F to Canal Street. For information, call (718) 443-3293.

and claw meat, and the rest was delicious little leg meat slivers. Only a bit of fresh mayonnaise bound the fish that was nestled into a lightly toasted and buttered Pepperidge Farm hot dog bun and topped with chopped chives. Sitting beside the sandwich was a mountain of the thinnest fries I've ever seen. Fish Camp's roll was the coolest of the bunch, but definitely worth the dough.



The lobster roll at Surf Bar.

### Surf Bar

With its sand-covered floors and funky wood stools, Surf Bar in Williamsburg has the look of a kitschy tropical lounge. The kitchen serves a lobster roll above with a lot of fresh meat; it's heavy on the mayonnaise but light on salt, and is generously mounded into a fresh, toasted bun. For \$14 you get chips and for a buck more, there's a side of nothing-special fries. It's a good sandwich at a fair price, but would be better if there was no Red's, or Brooklyn Fish Camp, to compare it to.

### Fish Tales

I pulled in another whopper at the much-admired Fish Tales, a Carroll Gardens seafood store known for its



Meeting his maker: Daniel Zoniga shows off a lobster like the kind used in Fairway's \$7.99 lobster rolls.

supremely fresh fare. "You know it's \$20, right?" asked the man when I placed the order. I knew and I was ready to spend.

Before my sandwich appeared, I was given Lobster 101 by the friendly staff: a tutorial on what constitutes an excellent roll (getting it at Fish Tales) versus the phony stuff (ordering it anywhere else). What I found was a crisp hot dog roll filled with fresh pieces of tail and claw meat among the smaller bits. The mayonnaise binding was a touch heavier than Brooklyn Fish Camp's, yet still admirably restrained, and a bit of chopped fresh dill contributed its unique grassy flavor. Fish Tales uses only fresh Maine lobster, and they don't throw anything suspicious into the mix. "Some places will add shrimp or that fake lobster stuff," the counterman said. "You're not going to find that here."

### Union Smith Cafe

This Smith Street eatery takes plenty of liberties, but it's all for the greater good. The chef is a bit less generous with the lobster meat, but for \$16 — which included a side of either fries or a salad — there was plenty to enjoy. The toasted brioche roll that held the lobster was too big and the fries that accompanied the sandwich were pretty standard, but adding pesto to the mayonnaise made the meat that much sweeter.

## BREAKING CHEWS!

This week, famed Cobble Hill institution, Cafe on Clinton, was poised to re-open under the watchful eye of chef Charlie Statelmann who once manned the kitchen at Smith Street's Patios and currently runs Wombat, the Aussie eatery in Williamsburg.

"The restaurant always had a great reputation," said Statelmann. But he plans on making the 286 Clinton St. eatery a destination with a new menu and wine list. The grub will run the gamut from an appetizer of garlic sausages to a meaty smacked duck entree served with white truffle polenta. Serving dinner and brunch, the 42-seat spot should be a neighborhood standby again in no time.   
Cafe on Clinton (286 Clinton St., at Warren Street in Cobble Hill), (718) 625-5598.

## 100 Wine Tips

### Chardonnay, California Style, Part 1

By Darrin Siegfried

One of the current forms of wine snobbery is to refer to yourself as a member of "The ABC Club." Anything But Chardonnay. When you press one of these people for an explanation and ask why they won't drink a Blanc de Blancs Champagne or a White Burgundy, both made from 100% Chardonnay, they'll usually say: "Oh, not those. I mean California Chardonnay."

Chardonnay from California can come in many styles. Levels of dryness and alcoholic strength, and many of them are not to taste or yours, but to write off all of the Chardonnay produced in California seems to show an arrogance that is not supported by the facts.

Chardonnay is a member of the Vitis Vinifera family of grapes, which is believed to have evolved about 4,000 years ago in the area now called Iran. The name Vitis Vinifera is Latin for "the vine that bears wine," and almost all of the wine made today throughout the world is made from grapes of this family.   
Chardonnay can be traced back to Burgundy, in France. Record books dating back to the Middle Ages still survive for many of the vineyards there, chronicling the hundreds of years of experimentation with hundreds of vines. Over time, the Burgundians came to realize that the white grapes that did best in their cool climate and made the best tasting wine was Chardonnay. While its early bud break made it susceptible to late spring frosts, the high yield per acre, the rich flavor and the amount of alcohol in wines made from Chardonnay made it the winner in the "survival of the most fit" contest. Chardonnay spread farther north, to the chalky soil of Champagne, where it is the only white grape that is allowed by French Law.

Chardonnay, at its best, is a vehicle for the unique taste that a vineyard can give to grapes. Chablis tastes different from Puligny-Montrachet, and even the next-door-neighbor vineyards of Le Montrachet and Bâtard Montrachet make wines that can be told apart by an experienced palate. This is what the French call terroir: that sense of "place" that is unique to that particular piece of the earth, and is a vital part of every great wine. Lower yields per acre seem to make wines with more evidence of terroir, rather than a fatty taste.

California, like the rest of North America, does not share the long history of grape experimentation that Europe does, and many immigrant grape growers simply planted what they had grown back in the old

country. As little as fifty years ago there were fewer than 500 acres of Chardonnay planted in all of California. Today, there are more than 100,000 acres, centered mainly in Napa, Sonoma and Monterey Counties.

Much of the credit for the explosive growth of Chardonnay in California goes to the late Professor Harold P. Olmo. Dr. Olmo developed more than 30 grape varieties and was responsible for improving many more. He came up with a clone of Chardonnay with a larger and tighter bunch than was currently being planted, and which produced better yields in warmer climates. These grapes made a full flavored wine with high alcohol content, and wine drinkers began to take notice.

Former Ambassador James Zellerbach and his wife, fans of the wines of Burgundy, planted their first vineyard with Pinot Noir and Chardonnay in 1953, establishing Harwood Vineyards in Sonoma. He imported new French oak barrels, much to the amusement of many old timers who made their wines in huge redwood vats. He knew that the best wines from Burgundy were made in oak and spent time maturing in barrels, taking on some of the vanilla flavors from the wood. The stony, mountainside soil, the low yields from the vines and the use of oak brought out an exceptional wine that attracted more and more attention. A model for the future was created.

Most winemakers who use Chardonnay in California use oak in one form or another. New French oak barrels can cost between \$600 and \$700 each, which must be passed on to the consumer, driving up the price of the wine. Realizing that most wine drinkers who drink California Chardonnay want the distinct taste of oak in their wine, many cost-conscious wineries actually flavor their wines with oak chips. However, that toasty, vanilla aroma and flavor can, and often is, used to mask inferior wine, and can end up making whatever sense of terroir there may have been in the wine.

The better, creamier notes that most California Chardonnays share come from a second fermentation, Malolactic Fermentation. Called "Malol" for short, this process uses bacteria to convert Malic acid (from the Latin Malo for apple) into Lactic Acid, lower in overall acidity. Warm climate Chardonnay takes well to this step, much more so than Riesling or Chenin Blanc, for example.

Next week, we'll talk more about Chardonnay, California Style.

## It's all relative

Before brothers Chris and David Russell could build a hodge at My Hero, their new sandwich shop in Windsor Terrace, they had to build the restaurant itself.

"We gutted the whole thing with the help of family and friends," said David. "Now it's great, like walking into your own home." And he means it, the brothers Russell don't just rent the space, they own the whole building.

Russell is just as proud of chef (and, of course, "family friend") Joseph Alvich's breakfast dishes, daily soups and sandwiches. "Whatever Joe cooks, everyone loves," he said. That includes the three pepperized neighborhood favorites: "My Hero" honey-glazed turkey, mozzarella, bacon, romaine and honey



The exterior of My Hero sandwich shop.

mustard; "The Belt," a chicken cutlet with melted American cheese, bacon and brown gravy; and the "Double Dave," roasted pork, smoked mozzarella and

roasted peppers named for the brothers' father. In addition to sandwiches, Alvich, who worked in the kitchen at Serendipity 3 in Manhattan, serves up hot heroes like sausage and peppers and veal Parmesan. Also on the menu are sliders: tiny, plump burgers that come four to an order and are topped with ketchup and cheese (and don't skip the side of fries). On the more sophisticated side of the menu, a special of chicken breasts filled with spinach and prosciutto and topped with a rich wine sauce caused one recent customer to comment: "The chef has fingers of gold."

My Hero (599 19th St., between 11th Avenue and Terrace Place in Windsor Terrace) accepts cash only. Sandwiches and burgers: \$3-\$8; Hot entrees: \$6-\$8. The shop is open Monday through Friday from 6 am-7 pm. Closed weekends until September. Delivery is available in Windsor Terrace and Park Slope. For information, call (718) 451-4376. — Tina Barry

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## Hall's way

### A Brooklyn band lets loose with a bluegrass sound on new album

By Maggie Serota  
for The Brooklyn Paper

It was a Friday afternoon and Rachel Cox, singer and guitarist for bluegrass-rock band Oakley Hall, was lounging in McCarren Park. With her band set to release its fourth album, "I'll Follow You," in September and go on a national tour this fall, Cox was soaking up the lazy summer while she still could. That is, when she wasn't waiting tables to pay the bills.

"I'm not one of those lucky people with an independent income," Cox, 37, lamented, referring to the influx of trust-fund dilettantes that Williamsburg's rock music scene seems to attract.

And she isn't only hustling

at her day job. Since forming in 2002, Oakley Hall has worked against the odds — it isn't easy out there for a band with a fiddle player to make it in the big city.

In 2002, Cox was living in North Carolina and happened to meet Brooklyn-based musician Pat Sullivan, who was on tour with his then band Crazee and Heaven. The two hit it off and Cox soon moved up to New York, playing subway station duets with Sullivan and joining Oakley Hall in 2004.

That same year, on the heels of the 2002 EP "Sweet &

Low," Oakley Hall released their first, eponymous album, and — despite some personnel shifts that pared them down from 10 — launched onto the rocky rock band road. Even now, the band seems to be in flux. Just this year, drummer Greg Andersen left the fold, giving his former band mates little time to find a replacement for their upcoming tour. According to Cox, the rock 'n' roll lifestyle isn't for everyone.

"Greg is definitely a grandpa," she remarked dismissively, "and I'm like a kid just raring to go."

That's no understatement. Rocking the local club circuit endlessly, the band kept plugging away and, in an 18-month span of 2005 and 2006, released two full-length records and hit the road opening for Bright Eyes.

But how did their Southern-

tinged sound go over with the initially Bright Eyes fans? "Our sound is more edgy," explained Cox, "we're more of a rock band with country elements."

Joining the current phalanx of bands who refer to themselves as "psychedelic," Cox said her band has been influenced by pioneers like Neil Young and the Byrds, but maintained that, "we're writing for a very contemporary audience."

While psychedelic rock has obviously influenced the band, the bluesy sounds on the album are really what catch a listener's ear. "I'll Follow You," sounds a lot more like Wilco than Iron Butterfly, and while Cox claimed to have hated country music until her stint in Winston-Salem, she sure has a convincing way. The tracks on "I'll Follow You" that really shine, like "All The Way Down" and "Angela," are the ones that she and Sullivan share vocal duties on.

With a prolific few years behind them and a tour with the Clientele and Black Mountain (Canadians who are perhaps the most enthusiastic "psych" band around, they're often accused of taking their influences a bit too seriously, let's call it in-psy-ling), looking, it looks like Oakley Hall's cowboy boots are planted in Brooklyn for good.

# Mark of the Beasties

## Boys come home for concert at McCarren Pool

By Maggie Serota  
for The Brooklyn Paper

Wally Steffen, 31, of the Beastie Boys as a third grader when they opened for Madonna. They got booed off the stage at Madison Square Garden," he recalled.

The Beasties were certainly in no danger of that fate last week in the McCarren Park Pool as they played their first-ever show in the borough.

It didn't hurt that their set opener was a song called "Hello, Brooklyn."

And while the Beastie Boys (Mike Diamond, Adam Horowitz and Adam Yauch) are certainly a little longer in the tooth than this reporter remembered them, they were no worse for the wear. Indeed, these days Yauch is starting to look like a dad with hair that yields more salt than pepper, and Mike D's unruly curls and weathered face are starting to make him



Hello, nasty: Beastie Boy Mike D, rocks McCarren Park Pool on Aug. 9 at the band's first Brooklyn show.

resemble a middle-aged Bob Dylan.

Still, with the aid of longtime DJ Mix Master Mike, and a cameo appearance by Run of Run-DMC, the Beasties alternated between playing instruments and prancing around the stage with missing a beat or breaking a hip.

The Beasties also made sure to include a few of their classic punk numbers, including "Heart Attack Man" off "Ill Communication," as if to remind their frat boy fan contingency that their roots are indeed in New York hardcore. However, the most rousing performances came from early

'90s staples "Check Your Head" and "Ill Communication," the two albums that ushered the Lollapalooza generation into Beastie Boys fandom.

And although the band recently released "The Mix-Up," an instrumental studio album, the night's set list stuck to a well-received, if predictable, selection of hits and party jams such as "Sure Shot," "Gratitude" and "Paul Revere."

That isn't to say the Beasties weren't anxious to prove their worth as legit instrumentalists by playing the madder, sadder track "Off The Grid" from the new album.

And just when it seemed like the sea of gyrating fans in cargo shorts had enough, the three aging rappers broke out "No Sleep 'Til Brooklyn," a song they wrote 20 years ago, to close the set.

And judging by the sea of pumping fists, everyone in the crowd was still wide awake.

## Shoe show

There are no bad seats at a performance of "Buckle My Shoe," but there are some uncomfortable milk crates.

The new musical, mounted by the Theater for the New City, is being performed outdoors in Prospect Park on Aug. 25 — and what it lacks in conventional seating (though they do provide the crates), it makes up for in humor.

Set in modern day New York City, the politically charged show focuses on an unnamed protagonist, a serious journalist struggling in a world of celebrity weeklies and gossip blogs.

Tired of being pushed around by bullies with deep pockets, our hero joins forces with two AWOL intelligence agents and a Marachi band on the run from immigration officials in an attempt to overthrow the system.

And this show is on the road, literally. After debuting in the middle of a



closed-down street in the East Village earlier this month, it's now playing avenues, playgrounds and bandshells in the five boroughs through Sept. 16. "Buckle My Shoe" will be performed at 2 pm on Aug. 25 at the Prospect Park Concert Grove. Tickets are free. For information, call (212) 254-1109 or visit [www.theaterforthenewcity.net](http://www.theaterforthenewcity.net).

— Karen Butler

## 9 DAYS...

Continued from page 2  
Brooklyn and Kingston avenues. (718) 469-1912. Free.

### Tues, Aug 21

**SENIOR MEETING:** Sephadic Nursing and Rehab Center hosts a meeting of the Senior Umbrella Network of Brooklyn. Guest speaker is Senator Martin Golden. 9 am to 11 am. 2566 Croton Ave. (516) 453-8362. Free.

**WALKING TOUR:** Battle of Brooklyn walking tour with historian William Perry. 12:30 to 2:30. Old Stone House members. Free. Includes light refreshments. Meet at Empire Ferry Plaza entrance to Prospect Park. Information and reservations, call (718) 768-3195.

**FITNESS CLASS:** The Brooklyn Bridge Park Conservancy and The Fitness Gym host a fitness class in Empire Ferry State Park. Dock Street at the East River. Today: Kick it, a kickboxing class. 7 pm. Registration at 6:30 pm. For info, visit [www.brooklynbridgepark.org](http://www.brooklynbridgepark.org). Free.

**ALCOHOL SUPPORT:** The HABE Harm Reduction Network offers a support group for people who wish to drink less or stop drinking. 7 pm. St. John's Episcopal Church, 139 St. John's Place. (347) 678-9471. Free.

**REGISTRATION APPLICATIONS:** The BAC Community Arts Regrant Program funds Brooklyn-based nonprofit organizations in the area of crafts, dance, film and video, folk arts, literature/theater, music, opera, photography, multi-disciplinary arts, theater and visual arts. The application seminar includes a detailed explanation of the application process and the new online application, a chance to meet the BAC Regrant Staff, and a question and answer session. 7:30 pm to 9 pm. Long Island University, CUNY Campus, Spike Lee Screening Room. (718) 425-0380. Free. Seminar will be preceded by a NYFA Artists' Fellowship Grant Application Seminar from 6 pm to 7:30 pm.

**FITNESS CLASS:** Total Mind and Body class for adults 55 and older. Included are chi, aerobics, self-defense, tai chi, dance and more. Meet with vendors, with refreshments and raffles. Call for more information and for time. Aviator Sports, Hanger 5, Floyd Bennett Field. (718) 758-9800. AUDITION: 6 pm to 9 pm. See Mon, Aug. 20.

### Wed, Aug 22

**FITNESS CLASS:** The Brooklyn Bridge Park Conservancy offers a yoga class. 7 pm. Empire Ferry State Park, Dock Street at the East River. For info, visit [www.brooklynbridgepark.org](http://www.brooklynbridgepark.org). Free.

**BALL GAME:** Brooklyn Cyclones play the Chesapeake Tigers. 5:30 to 7:30 pm. Key Span Park, 1904 Surf Ave., Coney Island. (718) 507-1100.

**BARGEMUSIC:** Russian classical music concert featuring works by Stravinsky, Shostakovich and Prokofiev. 5:30 to 8 pm. Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street at the East River. (718) 424-2003.

**OUTDOOR SCREENING:** Of the movie "Happy Feet." 5:30 adults, 5:30 kids. 9 pm. Bowling Green Cottage Lawn at Prospect Park. Audition Ground, on the corner of Coney and Coney Island avenues. (718) 287-3400 ext. 114.

**CAFE STEINHOFF:** Today, Lulu's Alt Country meets Jacques Brel in a dark alley. 10:30 pm. 422 Seventh Ave. at 14th Street. (718) 369-7776. Free.

**DEMAITSE CAFE:** Demaitse's public performance series offers the opportunity to see new dancers by emerging choreographers. After the performance, Q and A with the performers. 422 Greenwood Ave. Call for time and more information. (718) 522-4696. Free.

**DANCE REGISTRATION:** Cynthia King Dance Studio begins registration for fall term. Kids and adults classes. 1256 Prospect Ave. Call for info. (718) 437-0101.

### Thurs, Aug 23

**FITNESS CLASS:** The Brooklyn Bridge Park Conservancy offers a yoga class. 9 am. Empire Ferry State Park, Dock Street at the East River. For info, visit [www.brooklynbridgepark.org](http://www.brooklynbridgepark.org). Free.

## LIST YOUR EVENT...

To list your event in *Nine Days in Brooklyn*, please give us two weeks notice or more. Send your listing by e-mail: [calendar@brooklynpaper.com](mailto:calendar@brooklynpaper.com); by mail: GO Brooklyn, The Brooklyn Paper, 55 Washington St., Suite 624, Brooklyn, NY 11201; or by fax: (718) 634-9278. Listings are free and printed on a space available basis. We regret we cannot take listings over the phone.

### Sat, Aug 25

#### OUTDOORS AND TOURS

**EARLY MORNING BIRDING:** Discovery walk through the Salt Marsh of Gentien at 8 am. 58th Marsh Center, 3302 Avenue U. Call 311 and ask for the Urban Park Rangers. Free.

**LULUWATER EXPLORATION:** Enjoy a boat tour detailing Prospect Park's aquatic habitat. Brochure provided. \$10. 8:30 am. Noon to 12:45 pm. Enter park at Lincoln Road and Ocean Avenue. (718) 287-3400.

**HIKE:** Urban Park Rangers take participants through the Ravine. Walking tour teaches how to identify the trees of Prospect Park. Wear comfortable shoes and bring water. 1 pm. Picnic House, behind the Litchfield Villa off the East River. Call 311 and ask for the Urban Park Rangers. Free.

**HISTORIC FORT GREENE TOURS:** Explore Fort Greene Park. Learn about the 148-foot-tall Mary's Monument and the 11,500 Revolutionary War prisoners who are entombed in the walls. Discover the legacy trees dating back to the 1860s. Oldmad and Plaza design. 1 pm. Meet at the Fort Greene Visitor Center, near the Myrtle Avenue and Washington Park entrance. Call 311 and ask for the Urban Park Rangers. Free.

#### PERFORMANCE

**BARGEMUSIC:** Bands at noon features music by Beethoven, Schumann, Bruch and Hovha. Wine, cookies, cheese and crackers served. Concert at 1 pm. Call for ticket info. Also, classical music concert featuring works by Mahler, Grieg and Brahms. 5:30 to 8 pm. Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street at the East River. (718) 424-2003.

**SUMMER CONCERTS:** The Greenmarket summer concert series presents "Steven Koon Lan Jazz Sextet." 1 pm. Fort Greene Park, Washington and DeKalb avenues. Sorry, no contact telephone. Free.

#### ARTISANS MARKET

Featuring functional and collectible art. 9 am to 6 pm. DeKalb Avenue sidewalk along Fort Green Park, Washington and DeKalb avenues. (718) 655-8175. Free.

#### FLOATING POOL

at the foot of Jordan Road. 9 am to 7 pm. Smith and Union streets. [www.brooklynindiemarket.com](http://www.brooklynindiemarket.com). Free.

#### WEEKSVILLE FARMERS MARKET

Farm-fresh produce. 9 am to 1 pm. 1698 Bergen St., between Rochester and Buffalo avenues. (718) 788-8500.

#### INDE MARKET

Collective of Brooklyn-based emerging designers show their wares of fashion, accessories, bath and beauty, pet gear, home goods and more. 11 am to 7 pm. Smith and Union streets. [www.brooklynindiemarket.com](http://www.brooklynindiemarket.com). Free.

#### MEMORIAL CEREMONY

Society of Old Brooklyn, American Merchant Marine Association and the Navy Armed Guard host a ceremony at the Pious Ship Mary Margaret. 10 am. Sharp, Fort Greene Park, Washington and Union streets. (718) 699-1600. Free.

#### SAIT MARSH ART SHOW

hosted by the Salt Marsh Alliance. Nature paintings and photographs from local artists. 11 am to 4:30 pm. Salt Marsh Nature Center, 3302 Avenue U. (718) 338-7281. Free.

### Sun, Aug 26

#### OUTDOORS AND TOURS

**SHEEPSHEAD BAY TOUR:** Brooklyn Center for the Urban Environment hosts a tour of Sheepshead Bay. Francis Monro leads tour. \$50. \$40 members. 9:30 am to noon. Tour starts at Sheepshead Bay Road and East 16th Street. For info, call (718) 788-8500 ext. 208.

**GREENWOOD CEMETERY:** The Irish American Parade Committee hosts a ceremony and a march led by a band to graves of Malinda Tone, wife of Irish patriot Theobald Wolfe Tone, historian and author John Gallagher and others. 9:30 am. Meet at flag pole inside the cemetery's main gates. Fifth Avenue and 26th Street. (718) 768-7300. Free.

#### PERFORMANCE

**BARGEMUSIC:** Russian classical music concert featuring works by Stravinsky, Shostakovich and Tchaikovsky. 5:30 to 8 pm. Fulton Ferry Landing, Old Fulton Street at the East River. (718) 424-2003.

#### OTHER

**ART SHOW:** 11 am to 5:30 pm. See Sat., Aug. 25.

**CAFE STEINHOFF:** Today, "Bluch Cassidy and the Guardians of the Reef." 10:30 pm. 422 Seventh Avenue at 14th Street. (718) 369-7776. Free.

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\*Average "Door to Doctor" time of actual patient data collection YTD 2007.

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55/Preferred Plus/Monthly	\$41.39	\$65.82	\$119.71
Male-Non Tobacco	\$250,000.00	\$500,000.00	\$1,000,000.00
35/Preferred Plus/Monthly	\$15.35	\$23.14	\$34.27
45/Preferred Plus/Monthly	\$27.15	\$39.16	\$67.20
55/Preferred Plus/Monthly	\$61.19	\$100.57	\$186.46



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10 AWP

THE BROOKLYN PAPER

WWW.BROOKLYNPAPER.COM

August 18, 2007

## BROOKLYN Nightlife

Compiled by Chiara F. Cowan

### BAY RIDGE

#### The Salty Dog

7509 Third Ave. at 75th Street in Bay Ridge, (718) 238-6260  
 Wednesday: Karaoke Night, 9 pm, FREE.  
 Aug. 23: The Benjamins, 9:30 pm, FREE.

#### The Wicked Monk

6413 73rd Ave. at 86th Street in Bay Ridge, (718) 921-9807.  
 (info@wickedmonk.com)

Wednesday: Beer Pong, 9 pm, \$18D.  
 Aug. 18: Pocket Monsters: New Year's Eve, 8 pm, \$18D.  
 Aug. 19: Rockin' Frisco, 9 pm, \$18D.  
 Aug. 20: Water Aerobic, 10 pm, FREE.  
 Aug. 24: Stereo Spin, 9 pm, \$5.  
 Aug. 25: Big Sick, 9 pm, \$5.

### BEDFORD-STUYVESANT

#### Food 4 Thought

442 Marcus Garvey Blvd. at MacDonough Street in Bedford-Stuyvesant, (718) 443-4160.  
 Saturday: Open mic, 9 pm, \$5.  
 Tuesday: Philosophical Pub Tandem, an open discussion, 8 pm, donation suggested.  
 Wednesday: Game Night (Cash Flow), 7 pm, FREE.

### BOERUM HILL

#### Hank's Saloon

48 Third Ave. at Atlantic Avenue in Boerum Hill, (718) 625-8003.  
 http://www.anytime.com/hankssaloon.  
 Sunday: Sean Kenner and the New Jack Ramblers, 10 pm, FREE.  
 Monday: Live band/karaoke, 10 pm, FREE.  
 Wednesday: Midcentury live jazz, 10 pm, FREE.  
 Aug. 24: Salsa 'n' Live, a Caesarian, 10 pm, \$18D.  
 Aug. 25: Paula Cane, 9 pm, \$18D.  
 Aug. 26: Paul Cane, 9 pm, \$18D.

### CLINTON HILL

#### Grand Dakar Cafe

265 Grand Ave. at Lafayette Avenue in Clinton Hill, (718) 398-8900.

### BUSHWICK

#### Silent Barn

915 Wyckoff Ave. at Hancock Street in Bushwick, No phone.  
 Aug. 21: USASAMCOSTER, Dark Meat, Coyote Kite, Gumbo, 8 pm, \$18D.  
 Aug. 26: Bardo Pond, Naqia, Hall, Hill, 8 pm, \$18D.

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Summer 'Souls': Punk legends the Bouncing Souls will rock the Boardwalk on Aug. 20 at Cha Cha's in Coney Island. Nothing goes better with gelato than a mosh pit.

### BRIGHTON BEACH

#### National Restaurant

273 Brighton Beach Ave. at Brighton Second Street in Brighton Beach, (718) 646-1225, www.national.com.  
 Friday: Live Russian music and dance show, 9 pm, FREE (with \$50 pre-fun drink).  
 Saturday: Live Russian music and dance show, 9 pm, FREE (with \$50 pre-fun drink).

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 Saturday: Live Russian music and dance show, 9 pm, FREE (with \$50 pre-fun drink).

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### CONEY ISLAND

#### Cha Cha's

1227 Reginald Boardwalk at West 15th Street in Coney Island, (718) 946-1305, www.chachaconeyisland.com.  
 Aug. 18: 21 and Cuddly Records present the 2007 Coney Island Rockabilly Festival after party and Roller Derby Rumble, 10 pm, \$5.  
 Aug. 20: Bouncing Souls, The Grip and Star, The Nits, 8 pm, \$30.  
 Aug. 22: The Aquabats, MC Lurk, 10 pm, \$25.  
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## The Play's the Thing

with Ed Shakespeare

# Jackie's legend lives on

"IT TERRIFIED THE BOTH OF US," said Rachel Robinson Sunday on Jackie Robinson Day at Coney Park — but her statement had nothing to do with threats against America from foreign enemies.

No, Jackie Robinson's widow was referring to threats from one American to another, and the man who was threatened, her husband, was a former United States Army officer who had the audacity to believe that he had a right, like any other American who had torn up the Triple-A International League, to play big league baseball.

It was said that Jackie Robinson wasn't afraid of anything, but that statement was a bit of hyperbole.

Ninety-five mile-per-hour fastballs at one's head would scare anyone, and things were different in 1947. Although the batting helmet was first used by Negro league shortstop Willie Wells long before, no one in the major leagues wore them in Robinson's rookie season.

Bravery is not predicated on being unaware of catastrophe, but of having the intelligence to recognize the danger and the courage to act in spite of it. That is what Robinson did, despite an inordinate number of pitches thrown at him because of the color of his skin.

Rachel Robinson was asked if she thought the pitches near Robinson's head were designed to hurt or scare him. She just politely widened her eyes, in effect saying, "What difference does it make? It's still frightening."

In the face of bean balls and runners trying to spike him, Robinson hit .297 and was the National League Rookie-of-the-Year in '47. But when the Dodgers added intimidating right-hander Don Newcombe in '49, who "protected" Robinson by going after opposing team's hitters, Robinson hit .248 and became the National League's Most Valuable Player.

On Sunday, as Rachel Robinson spoke to reporters in the KeySpan Park Gallery, just outside the window was the sculpture of a turning point in history.

The sculpture commemorates a moment from Robinson's tumultuous first season when Pee Wee Reese, the Dodgers' white captain, publicly showed his support for his black teammate. Robinson had recently received death threats. Across the river from Cincinnati was Ken-Ed, then considered very much a southern state, and the home of Reese.

The Dodgers were in the field, and the abuse directed toward Robinson from the Reds, and from the stands, was enormous. Although the details are lost to the mists of time, Reese apparently crossed the diamond from his position at shortstop to Robinson, who was playing first base. Reese put his arm around Robinson and offered encouragement, but the gesture, a white player putting his arm around his black teammate, was not only a comfort to Robinson, but important on the national stage, where Robinson had been under enormous strain.

"Pee Wee went over to stand with Jack, not because of anything black and white, but because Pee Wee was his friend," said Rachel Robinson.

Sixty years after Robinson changed America, Jackie Robinson Day at Coney Park featured many in the stands wearing Brooklyn Dodgers jerseys and hats, and some fans sporting jerseys with Robinson's retired number 42.

When Robinson broke in with the Dodgers, no one suspected that 10 years later, the Dodgers would desert Brooklyn. Yet 50 years after that move, the Brooklyn Dodgers are still news, as recent books, articles, and an HBO movie can attest.

Part of that continued interest in the Brooklyn Dodgers is that they transcended baseball. Robinson's success was the linchpin for other civil rights advances to follow. Indeed, Robinson's public success may have done more to advance civil rights than any other action in American history.

"He knew that he had to do well," said Duke Snider in the Baseball Almanac.

"He knew that the future of blacks in baseball depended on it. The pressure was enormous, overwhelming and unbearable at times. I don't know how he held up. I know I couldn't have."

An important reason that Robinson held up was because Rachel Robinson was with him for the entirety of what some called "baseball's noble experiment."

And at Coney Park on Sunday, this partner in Robinson's success was still working for success, discussing how the Jackie Robinson Foundation helps students afford college.

Even in death, Jackie Robinson is still changing our society for the better.

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August 18, 2007



## BROOKLYN CYCLONES COVERAGE

# Cyclones have that all-star impact



All six Cyclone all-stars: (from left) Brandon Kaval, Matt Bouchard, Dylan Owen, Will Morgan, Jake Eigsti and Jason Jacobs.

By Ed Shakespeare  
The Brooklyn Paper

The six Brooklyn Cyclones who were selected to the New York-Penn League All-Star team had a huge impact on Tuesday night's game — for better and for worse, it turned out.

Jason Jacobs, who was an All-Star last year, too, started the game at catcher and went 1-for-3 with a run scored.

Cyclone ace Dylan Owen pitched the second inning — a 1-2-3 frame against the rival American League affiliate players.

But when the game was on the line — with the National League affiliate players holding a 4-3 lead in the eighth, All-Star manager Edgar Alfonzo summoned Will Morgan from the bullpen. Morgan gave up a single, then got an out before he was pulled.

That run eventually came around to score and was charged to Morgan.

Tough break. The three other Cyclone All-Stars — Jake Eigsti, Matt Bouchard and Brandon Kaval — had mixed nights. Eigsti was 0-for-3; Bouchard was 2-for-3, though he made an error at short; and Brandon Kaval struck out in his only at-bat.

Alfonzo, who was named manager by dint of the Cyclones' league-best record, didn't care what happened out there.

"As far as I'm concerned," he said, "all my guys are All-Stars."

He makes a good point.

Owen has been Brooklyn's lone pitching selection. The right-hander has a 6-1 record with a 2.05 ERA. His control has been a big part of his success as he's struck out 48 and walked only nine.

Jacobs is hitting .287 with seven homers and 31 RBI. He's been outstanding in handling the league's best pitching staff, and he's also been playing some first base.

Bouchard has been a stand-out defensively, so he made the All-Stars despite a batting average of only .236.

Eigsti is hitting .303 with a pair of homers and 26 RBI.

Kaval is batting .311 for the Cyclones, and has played solid defense.

Morgan has allowed only 13 hits in 26 innings. The right-hander has a 2-0 record with two saves. Morgan has struck out 36 batters and allowed a mere eight walks.

## Voyles is back from beanning

By Ed Shakespeare  
The Brooklyn Paper

When the Cyclones returned home on Aug. 10 from a road trip, J.R. Voyles, the third-baseman who was hit in the face with a pitch on July 27, was back.

He received a nice ovation from Cyclones' fans on his first at-bat — a tribute to the drive of this one-time back-up infielder who needed 40 stitches to close the wound to his left eye.

Yes, Voyles struck out three times, all swinging, but he did hit a double to deep left-center in his second at-bat.

His manager, Edgar Alfonzo, said Voyles' lack of sharpness in his first game back was understandable.

"Everyone is afraid after being hit like that," Alfonzo after the game. "I was hit in the head



J.R. Voyles

once and I was afraid when I first came back. It's only natural."

But the slugger — who became the Cyclones' linchpin only after fifth-round draft pick

Zach Lutz got injured on Opening Night — showed he was truly back two games later, when he went 3-for-4, including an RBI double.

Voyles explained how he handled his comeback. "I just tried to block it out and just concentrate on the pitch, just as I always do," he explained, seeming happy and relieved to finally be back on the field.

Cyclones fans are relieved, too. The sight of Voyles played out at home plate, motionless, before being carried out on a stretcher was the scariest moment so far this year.

Cyclones fans are relieved, too. The sight of Voyles played out at home plate, motionless, before being carried out on a stretcher was the scariest moment so far this year.

## Kunz the man at Span

By Patrick Hickey Jr.  
for The Brooklyn Paper

Newcomer Eddie Kunz is the Mets' first top overall draft pick to join the Cyclones to start his professional career in Brooklyn since Scott Kazmir in 2002 — so the reliever knows expectations will be high.

"I'm going to come out and do my best," said the 6-foot-5, 250-pound Oregon native. "I had some success in college, so I just want to take it from there."

Pitching in front of a typical crowd of 5,000 at Oregon State University — where he had 12 saves and a 2.91 ERA this season — Kunz feels he's ready to step up at Coney.

"I've never played in front of 9,000 people, so it's going to be different," said Kunz, who threw a scoreless inning in his first appearance on Aug. 4. Since then, he's notched two saves, though his ERA is 7.36. "New York is so different from Oregon, but I love it here so far. I think it's going to be fun and I think I'm ready. I can't wait to pitch here."

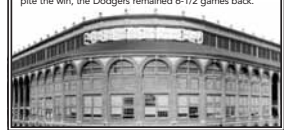
He had to wait seven weeks while his agent and the Mets hammered out the details of his contract, but at least he has his priorities straight.

"I've never had a Nathan's hot dog before," said Kunz. "That's the first thing on my to-do list once I have some free time."

## Dem Bums' last season

To commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Brooklyn Dodgers' final, dismal campaign, The Brooklyn Paper will provide a weekly reminder of the fabled Boys of Summer. Here's this week's highlight:

**Aug. 21, 1957 Dodgers 8 - Reds 0**  
Even a terrible season has highlights, and Don Newcombe provided one with a five-hit gem before just 8,100 Glas Field fans. Gino Cimoli hit a three-run homer in the third and Gil Hodges had a two-run single in the seventh. Despite the win, the Dodgers remained 6-1/2 games back.



## Freeman to Hall

for The Brooklyn Paper

You may not know who David Freeman is, but for much of the Cyclones' existence,

Freeman was the team's official scorer, a job he also performs in a five-person rotation for the New York Yankees.

And now he's in the Hall of Fame. Here's how he did it.

When Alex Rodriguez hit his 500th homer at Yankee Stadium on Aug. 4, Freeman was the official scorer that day.

Because Rodriguez was the youngest player in baseball history to reach the 500-homer mark, the Hall of Fame asked for the scorecard.

Freeman kept a copy, but the original — with his name listed as the scorer — is now in Cooperstown.

It's the closest a Cyclone has ever gotten to immortality. So far.

— Ed Shakespeare



## Coney thunder

Cyclone starting pitcher Dillon Gee was strong in his team's 4-2 win over the Auburn Doubledays on Sunday

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## OUR OPINION

## Arabic school missteps

The city's inept handling of the Khalil Gibran International Academy continues.

Just three weeks before the Arabic language and culture school is set to open inside a Boerum Hill public school building, its principal, Debbie Almontaser, was forced to resign after defending the use of the term "infidels" on a line of Muslim-empowerment T-shirts.

She told the New York Post that the term means "shaking off." Plenty of critics — including teacher's union head Randi Weingarten — were quick to remind Almontaser of the world's much more hostile meaning, and she quit her job a few days later.

The resignation put the school — which was already having trouble filling its mere 60 slots — in a tailspin. So what did the city do to stop the bleeding? It brought in a Jewish educator — who doesn't even speak Arabic — to run the city's first Arabic language and culture

school. It almost reads like an article in the satirical newspaper, the Onion.

This newspaper did not take a position on establishing an Arabic language and culture school. Indeed, we've pointed out that there are more than 60 such public, non-sectarian academies in the city — teaching languages from Mandarin Chinese to Russian to Creole to Spanish.

But we did criticize, from the start, the ham-handed manner in which Department of Education bureaucrats, tone deaf to local concerns, handled what would have been a controversial move even under the best of circumstances.

**A** tried to slip the Gibran Academy's then-80 middle-school-aged students into Park Slope's elementary-level PS 282 without so much as informing the local parents that their already crowded school would be forced to

welcome older kids.

When the parents revolted, the city withdrew the plan — and then foisted it just as diplomatically on parents at a Dean Street high- and middle-school complex.

Throughout, the Department of Education lost any remaining trust by refusing to answer basic questions about how the school was planned, what its curriculum would be and why Almontaser was best equipped to lead it. Then, when the school was attacked by critics — some with completely legitimate questions — Almontaser pretended she couldn't be bothered and that school opponents were intolerant.

In this sorry context, perhaps, hiring a Jewish educator who does not speak Arabic makes sense. After all, the Department of Education hasn't known what it's doing from the start, so why should anything be different now?

## ALL DRAWN OUT



## LETTERS

## Nathan's grandson chides our Thor editorial

To the editor,

Your editorial praising Thor Equities' Coney Island plan ignored one thing: That Thor's plan is just one idea for rebuilding the Coney Island amusement zone ("Why not Thor?" Aug. 11).

Unfortunately, Thor tried to play it cute. First, the company told area landowners that the city would never let them build condos. This allowed Thor to buy up land at a cheaper price.

Then, the company turned around and tried to push the condo idea. They are still playing it cute with their hotel and timeshare proposal.

So instead of taking the city to task, maybe you should be putting your energies into castigating Thor for the disingenuous way it has bargained with the city and the Coney Island community in general. Thor's approach has demonstrated to me that it cares more about profit and less about restoring a great historical treasure.

**Lloyd Handwerker, Park Slope**  
The writer is the grandson of Nathan Handwerker, whose hot dog stand still sits at Surf and Stillwell avenues in Coney Island

## Chaining us up

To the editor,

In a recent article, you wrote that Borough President Markowitz was proud of the arrival of Trader Joe's that he now wants Nordstrom to come to Brooklyn ("Marty

casts his line for Nordstrom," July 28).

I just returned from Saratoga Springs, New York. When I was there last, Saratoga Springs was an attractive town with pleasing Victorian architecture and wonderful Mom and Pops selling interesting items plus a few touristy items. The town also had the famous racetrack.

This visit, I found lots of chain stores — Borders, The Gap, The Loft, Starbucks to name a few — in their sterile, soulless buildings and lots of shops selling only touristy items, the kind you can find anywhere. There was the same type of tourist you find everywhere, the same street people, the same activities. In short, I could have been in any boring tourist spot anywhere in the country.

Is this what we want for Brooklyn?  
**Bob Ohlerting, Park Slope**

## Falling down

To the editor,

I would like to make one thing clear to Brooklyn Paper readers: Last week's storm had nothing to do with the collapse of the building on Jackson Place ("Storm may have caused collapse," Park Slope Edition, Aug. 11). The year-plus-long neglect of the derelict structure did.

Whether it had been rain, wind or a neighborhood child throwing a tennis ball against the building's facade, it was coming down. Do not let another developer like

Mark Zeldin act as if this was an "act of God" and could not have been helped. He and his partners are responsible for destroying the quality of life on Jackson Place for years.

Now, thanks to the Department of Buildings and Housing Preservation and Development, at least the residents can feel a bit safer walking down the block.

**Aaron Brashear, Greenwood Heights**  
The writer is chairman of the Community Board 7 Buildings and Construction Subcommittee

## Paper prize

Congratulations to all the staff on your amazing accomplishment ("The Brooklyn Paper is 'Newspaper of the year,'" Aug. 11). I am an avid reader, and have to say, this really is an amazing paper. Fantastic!

**Lawrence Goodman, Providence, R.I.**

## Pleased to meet you

To the editor,

God bless you for printing that wonderful letter from former Jehovah's Witness member Brenda Lee ("Bearing witness to the Witnesses," Letters, Aug. 11). It is amazing how powerful Satan really is in this crazy world. The challenge is that most of the population in this country doesn't know or believe that he exists. The truth must be told to all. Thank you for this article.

**Robert Black, Sacramento CA**

## Neigh to builder

To the editor,

Thank you for an insightful article about the horses at Kensington Stables ("Horses: 'Neigh' to development," July 28).

While I understand the focus of the article was the noise from the Canon Place construction site, I would like to add a footnote to your story. I am on the Board of Directors of GallopNYC, which provides therapeutic horsemanship riding to a diverse group of individuals, including children and adults with autism, cerebral palsy, multiple sclerosis, traumatic head injury, and individuals who have suffered emotional trauma such as first responders and war veterans.

Our organization now operates one day a week at Kensington Stables. The horse's gentle movement increases the disabled rider's flexibility, balance and muscle strength and may result in greater muscle control. Under the direction of a certified therapeutic riding instructor and an experienced physical therapist, riders learn to sit on their horses properly, use their reins to command the horse, and ride at a walk and a trot.

Volunteers are an essential part of the program, and each volunteer receives training from the program's coordinator. If you are interested in learning more, please visit [www.GallopNYC.org](http://www.GallopNYC.org).

**Terry Lawler, Park Slope**

## Bike brouhaha

To the editor,

Bikers have been avoiding the bike lanes on both sides of Ninth Street, preferring safety to convenience ("Ninth St. bike lane tolls for thee," Park Slope Edition, July 28). Measuring from the middle of the street, the safety buffer is only 30 inches wide, eventually diminishing to no buffer area at the corners.

The Department of Transportation could have designed the Ninth Street lanes with dimensions similar to the lane on Third Street, where bikers there have the benefit of a 7-foot, 3-inch safety buffer.

Politicians like Councilman Bill DeBlasio and state Sen. Velmanette Montgomery supported the bike lane project without first contacting Ninth Street residents and block association leaders.

But Eric Adams, the new state Senator and former NYPD captain, set up a special meeting for Ninth Street residents, where he showed his support and told us that the two-bike lane plan was flawed and should be stopped. He candidly told residents that he could not understand the "roughness" methods of Transportation Alternatives and DOT. Neither can we. Ninth Street residents should remember Sen. Adams the next time his name appears on a voting ballot.

**Robert G. Cain, Park Slope**  
The writer is co-president of the Ninth Street Block Association.

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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

# Squawk! Parrots invade Park Slope

By Dana Rubinstein  
The Brooklyn Paper

Brooklyn's legendary Monk parrots have migrated to Park Slope.

A flock of about five bright green tropical parrots — an offshoot of the borough's legendary wild parrot community in Midwood — has been spotted hanging out in a tree on the corner of 14th Street and Eighth Avenue.

Brett Cleaver, who lives on nearby 15th Street, has seen the bright green birds twice in a matter of four days.

"They were cute," said Cleaver. "It seemed like there

were two couples, and an odd man out. A couple of them were kissing. People were stopping and looking — it was certainly a spectacle."

Brooklyn has been home to colonies of tropical South American Monk (or Quaker) parrots since at least the 1970s, when parrots intended for pet stores reportedly escaped during transport. While their exact origins remain murky, the parrots soon established a colony on the campus of Brooklyn College. They have since nested in large numbers in Green-Wood Cemetery, too.

But this is the first known in-



A parrot on Eighth Avenue and 14th Street in Park Slope.

stance of Monk parrots living in Park Slope, according to Steve Baldwin, Brooklyn's foremost expert on the Monk parrot, the

founder of www.brooklynparrots.com, and the leader of the Wild Brooklyn Parrot Safari. Baldwin said the repeated sightings of the parrots in the 14th Street tree indicate that they have indeed established a colony in Park Slope — though not necessarily in that tree (they prefer less conventional sites like the nooks under air conditioners and within church spires).

"My theory is that this may be a roving band of teenage parrots," said Baldwin. "The colony of parrots at Green-Wood Cemetery had a big crop of babies this year. I think this

babies that were born last year, now that they know the ropes and aren't dependent on their parents any more, are looking for new places to settle down."

Baldwin said it would only be natural for the parrots to nest in the Slope. After all, they're parrots, and family is important. The parrots have been known to soar through the neighborhood on a search of five feeders.

"They'd fly through the neighborhood once in a while, and I'd say, 'What the hell were those?'" said Coleigh Fisher, the manager of Cafe Steinhof, which is a block away from the bird hang-out. "But this is the

first year. I've spotted them so close to us."

Fisher, for one, is cool with his new neighbors. "Sure? Why not? Everyone needs a tree to rest in, right?" said Fisher.

"I want them to move into my backyard," said Cleaver. "They might be loud, though." But Baldwin argued that Slopers should be flattered.

"Parrots don't live in places that are undesirable," added Baldwin. "They need some green, they like some nice trees to munch on. Park Slopers should be proud."

## Downtown going Williamsburg

By Ariella Cohen  
The Brooklyn Paper

A little bit of hipsterism is on its way to a gritty intersection of Downtown Brooklyn.

The developer of 177 Concord St. has called in architect Karl Fischer — the Montreal designer who gave Williamsburg the trendy Greenwich building known for attracting such bold-name buyers as rapper Busta Rhymes

and actress Annabelle Sciorra — to convert the nondescript brick warehouse into industrial-chic, loft-style condos.

The five-story building on the corner of Duffield Street will include 25 market-rate units, including a private penthouse level. There will be a roof deck and, possibly, private cabanas — a recent luxury innovation that is becoming the norm for developers looking to cash in every square

inch of space, even on the roof.

The developer paid \$6 million for the low-rise-zoned building in 2006, according to city property records. A spokeswoman said this week the new design would "keep feel and taste of the neighborhood" while adding something that hadn't yet been seen there: luxury.

"We are offering spacious, New York City-style lofts with an exercise room, a recreation room

and a roof deck, with great views of the bridges," said Lizette Martinez, a spokeswoman for the developer.

The warehouse sits in the rapidly changing area between Vinegar Hill and Downtown Brooklyn — which one real-estate broker calls "RAMBO" (Right After the Manhattan Bridge Overpass) and another hopes to dub "Flattery" (after Flatbush Avenue and Tillary Street).

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- Treatment of Gum Disease
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- Emergencies Seen SAME DAY

### DENTISTS

#### BRITTESSMILE Now in Park Slope!

Barack Obama will swing into the Borough of Kings for the second time in four weeks on Wednesday to seek up close financial and moral support from Brooklynites.

The junior senator from Illinois — a Brooklyn resident, albeit briefly, in the 1980s — will headline the "Official Brooklyn for Barack Kick-Off" on Aug. 22 at the Brooklyn Marriott.

The unofficial kick-off took place on July 24 at the home of Brooklyn Heights doyeness Nina Collins, where the chance to rub elbows with the presidential hopeful started at \$1,000.

Next week's fundraiser, organized by Brooklyn for Barack, should draw a far larger crowd, with tickets running a mere \$25 each (\$15 for students).

"It should definitely be lively, and diverse in terms of age, race, and sexual orientation," said Jordan Thomas, a Fort Greene resident and founding member of Brooklyn for Barack. "We run the gamut in Brooklyn, and we think Barack Obama appeals to a wide variety of people."

Perhaps, but Obama is trailing Democratic front-runner and New York's "favorite daughter," Sen. Hillary Clinton, in the Brooklyn fundraising department.

Through June 30, Clinton raised \$424,000 in the borough to Obama's \$231,000.

Thomas thinks that's about to change.

"I certainly think the country will elect this black president," said Thomas.

Barack Obama fundraiser, Brooklyn Marriott (333 Adams St., between Wiloughby Street and Tech Place), Aug. 22, 5:30 pm, \$25. For information, visit [www.brooklynforbarack.org](http://www.brooklynforbarack.org) or call (212) 763-4853.

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## Barack to come back

By Dana Rubinstein  
The Brooklyn Paper

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# HOMIE IMPROVEMENT

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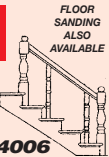
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## LEGAL NOTICES

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the 7th day of August, 2007, bearing Index Number N50070/2007, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, in room 007, grants me the right to assume the name of Avery Earl Coleman. My present name is Avery Earl Marshall, aka Avery Earl Coleman. My present address is 1758A Dean Street, Brooklyn, New York 11216. My place of birth is Brooklyn, NY. My date of birth is March 30, 1965.

Notice is hereby given that an Order entered by the Civil Court, Kings County on the 15th day of August, 2007, bearing Index Number N50070/2007, a copy of which may be examined at the Office of the Clerk, located at CIVIL COURT, KINGS COUNTY, 141 Livingston Street, Brooklyn, New York 11201, in room 007, grants me the right to assume the name of Vanessa Layetia Dudley. My present name is Vanessa Cayetia Dudley. My present address is 2345 Linden Boulevard, Brooklyn, New York 11208. My place of birth is Minoala, NY. My date of birth is November 24, 1978.

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# REAL ESTATE

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1010, 1015, 1020, 1025, 1030, 1035, 1040, 1045, 1050, 1055, 1060, 1065, 1070, 1075, 1080, 1085, 1090, 1095, 1100, 1105, 1110, 1115, 1120, 1125, 1130, 1135, 1140, 1145, 1150, 1155, 1160, 1165, 1170, 1175, 1180, 1185, 1190, 1195, 1200, 1205, 1210, 1215, 1220, 1225, 1230, 1235, 1240, 1245, 1250, 1255, 1260, 1265, 1270, 1275, 1280, 1285, 1290, 1295, 1300, 1305, 1310, 1315, 1320, 1325, 1330, 1335, 1340, 1345, 1350, 1355, 1360, 1365, 1370, 1375, 1380, 1385, 1390, 1395, 1400, 1405, 1410, 1415, 1420, 1425, 1430, 1435, 1440, 1445, 1450, 1455, 1460, 1465, 1470, 1475, 1480, 1485, 1490, 1495, 1500, 1505, 1510, 1515, 1520, 1525, 1530, 1535, 1540, 1545, 1550, 1555, 1560, 1565, 1570, 1575, 1580, 1585, 1590, 1595, 1600, 1605, 1610, 1615, 1620, 1625, 1630, 1635, 1640, 1645, 1650, 1655, 1660, 1665, 1670, 1675, 1680, 1685, 1690, 1695, 1700, 1705, 1710, 1715, 1720, 1725, 1730, 1735, 1740, 1745, 1750, 1755, 1760, 1765, 1770, 1775, 1780, 1785, 1790, 1795, 1800, 1805, 1810, 1815, 1820, 1825, 1830, 1835, 1840, 1845, 1850, 1855, 1860, 1865, 1870, 1875, 1880, 1885, 1890, 1895, 1900, 1905, 1910, 1915, 1920, 1925, 1930, 1935, 1940, 1945, 1950, 1955, 1960, 1965, 1970, 1975, 1980, 1985, 1990, 1995, 2000, 2005, 2010, 2015, 2020, 2025, 2030, 2035, 2040, 2045, 2050, 2055, 2060, 2065, 2070, 2075, 2080, 2085, 2090, 2095, 2100, 2105, 2110, 2115, 2120, 2125, 2130, 2135, 2140, 2145, 2150, 2155, 2160, 2165, 2170, 2175, 2180, 2185, 2190, 2195, 2200, 2205, 2210, 2215, 2220, 2225, 2230, 2235, 2240, 2245, 2250, 2255, 2260, 2265, 2270, 2275, 2280, 2285, 2290, 2295, 2300, 2305, 2310, 2315, 2320, 2325, 2330, 2335, 2340, 2345, 2350, 2355, 2360, 2365, 2370, 2375, 2380, 2385, 2390, 2395, 2400, 2405, 2410, 2415, 2420, 2425, 2430, 2435, 2440, 2445, 2450, 2455, 2460, 2465, 2470, 2475, 2480, 2485, 2490, 2495, 2500, 2505, 2510, 2515, 2520, 2525, 2530, 2535, 2540, 2545, 2550, 2555, 2560, 2565, 2570, 2575, 2580, 2585, 2590, 2595, 2600, 2605, 2610, 2615, 2620, 2625, 2630, 2635, 2640, 2645, 2650, 2655, 2660, 2665, 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3500, 3505, 3510, 3515, 3520, 3525, 3530, 3535, 3540, 3545, 3550, 3555, 3560, 3565, 3570, 3575, 3580, 3585, 3590, 3595, 3600, 3605, 3610, 3615, 3620, 3625, 3630, 3635, 3640, 3645, 3650, 3655, 3660, 3665, 3670, 3675, 3680, 3685, 3690, 3695, 3700, 3705, 3710, 3715, 3720, 3725, 3730, 3735, 3740, 3745, 3750, 3755, 3760, 3765, 3770, 3775, 3780, 3785, 3790, 3795, 3800, 3805, 3810, 3815, 3820, 3825, 3830, 3835, 3840, 3845, 3850, 3855, 3860, 3865, 3870, 3875, 3880, 3885, 3890, 3895, 3900, 3905, 3910, 3915, 3920, 3925, 3930, 3935, 3940, 3945, 3950, 3955, 3960, 3965, 3970, 3975, 3980, 3985, 3990, 3995, 4000, 4005, 4010, 4015, 4020, 4025, 4030, 4035, 4040, 4045, 4050, 4055, 4060, 4065, 4070, 4075, 4080, 4085, 4090, 4095, 4100, 4105, 4110, 4115, 4120, 4125, 4130, 4135, 4140, 4145, 4150, 4155, 4160, 4165, 4170, 4175, 4180, 4185, 4190, 4195, 4200, 4205, 4210, 4215, 4220, 4225, 4230, 4235, 4240, 4245, 4250, 4255, 4260, 4265, 4270, 4275, 4280, 4285, 4290, 4295, 4300, 4305, 4310, 4315, 4320, 4325, 4330, 4335, 4340, 4345, 4350, 4355, 4360, 4365, 4370, 4375, 4380, 4385, 4390, 4395, 4400, 4405, 4410, 4415, 4420, 4425, 4430, 4435, 4440, 4445, 4450, 4455, 4460, 4465, 4470, 4475, 4480, 4485, 4490, 4495, 4500, 4505, 4510, 4515, 4520, 4525, 4530, 4535, 4540, 4545, 4550, 4555, 4560, 4565, 4570, 4575, 4580, 4585, 4590, 4595, 4600, 4605, 4610, 4615, 4620, 4625, 4630, 4635, 4640, 4645, 4650, 4655, 4660, 4665, 4670, 4675, 4680, 4685, 4690, 4695, 4700, 4705, 4710, 4715, 4720, 4725, 4730, 4735, 4740, 4745, 4750, 4755, 4760, 4765, 4770, 4775, 4780, 4785, 4790, 4795, 4800, 4805, 4810, 4815, 4820, 4825, 4830, 4835, 4840, 4845, 4850, 4855, 4860, 4865, 4870, 4875, 4880, 4885, 4890, 4895, 4900, 4905, 4910, 4915, 4920, 4925, 4930, 4935, 4940, 4945, 4950, 4955, 4960, 4965, 4970, 4975, 4980, 4985, 4990, 4995, 5000, 5005, 5010, 5015, 5020, 5025, 5030, 5035, 5040, 5045, 5050, 5055, 5060, 5065, 5070, 5075, 5080, 5085, 5090, 5095, 5100, 5105, 5110, 5115, 5120, 5125, 5130, 5135, 5140, 5145, 5150, 5155, 5160, 5165, 5170, 5175, 5180, 5185, 5190, 5195, 5200, 5205, 5210, 5215, 5220, 5225, 5230, 5235, 5240, 5245, 5250, 5255, 5260, 5265, 5270, 5275, 5280, 5285, 5290, 5295, 5300, 5305, 5310, 5315, 5320, 5325, 5330, 5335, 5340, 5345, 5350, 5355, 5360, 5365, 5370, 5375, 5380, 5385, 5390, 5395, 5400, 5405, 5410, 5415, 5420, 5425, 5430, 5435, 5440, 5445, 5450, 5455, 5460, 5465, 5470, 5475, 5480, 5485, 5490, 5495, 5500, 5505, 5510, 5515, 5520, 5525, 5530, 5535, 5540, 5545, 5550, 5555, 5560, 5565, 5570, 5575, 5580, 5585, 5590, 5595, 5600, 5605, 5610, 5615, 5620, 5625, 5630, 5635, 5640, 5645, 5650, 5655, 5660, 5665, 5670, 5675, 5680, 5685, 5690, 5695, 5700, 5705, 5710, 5715, 5720, 5725, 5730, 5735, 5740, 5745, 5750, 5755, 5760, 5765, 5770, 5775, 5780, 5785, 5790, 5795, 5800, 5805, 5810, 5815, 5820, 5825, 5830, 5835, 5840, 5845, 5850, 5855, 5860, 5865, 5870, 5875, 5880, 5885, 5890, 5895, 5900, 5905, 5910, 5915, 5920, 5925, 5930, 5935, 5940, 5945, 5950, 5955, 5960, 5965, 5970, 5975, 5980, 5985, 5990, 5995, 6000, 6005, 6010, 6015, 6020, 6025, 6030, 6035, 6040, 6045, 6050, 6055, 6060, 6065, 6070, 6075, 6080, 6085, 6090, 6095, 6100, 6105, 6110, 6115, 6120, 6125, 6130, 6135, 6140, 6145, 6150, 6155, 6160, 6165, 6170, 6175, 6180, 6185, 6190,

